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# Got Vaccinated?

If not, register on www.cowin.gov.in

- Covid-19 vaccination is being done free of cost at all Government Vaccination Centers; all centers have 'walk-in vaccination' facility
- All Vaccination Centres are now open for everyone above the age of 18. Eligible people must get themselves vaccinated
- Covid-19 vaccine is safe and effective.
   "Be afraid of corona, not vaccination"



CM YK

# Gurugram shows the way in jab drive

49.3% of residents in Millennium City have received at least one dose, shows Central govt. survey

ASHOK KUMAR GURUGRAM

Out-of-the-box thinking by local health officials in holding special vaccination camps for different categories of beneficiaries and setting up drive-through vaccine centres, significant social media penetration and the participation of private hospitals have helped Gurugram achieve the feat of administering the highest number of vaccination doses in the State till date.

Haryana Health Minister Anil Vij, in a press statement earlier this month, had claimed that Gurugram ranked first among 24 major urban cities in the country in vaccination coverage in a Central government survey with 49.3% of its population having received at least one dose of vaccination.

As per the district health department, a total of 10,34,988 doses had been administered in Gurugram, including 8.58.964 first doses. till June 22. The highest number of 4,06,227 doses have been administered in the 18-44 age-group, followed by 2,81,799 in 45-60 age-group. A total of 2,28,533 doses have been administered to those above 60 years of age, including 1,59,978 first doses.



At cross purposes: Beneficiaries violating social distancing guidelines at a vaccination centre in Gurugram on Wednesday. • PTI

Faridabad stands second in the State in vaccination coverage with around 7 lakh doses, followed by Sonipat and Hisar with approximately four lakh and three lakh doses respectively.

**High awareness** 

Attributing it partially to high degree of awareness among the local population due to social media penetration, District Immunisation Officer Martand Pratap Singh said the local health authorities in a first-of-it-kind initiative conducted camps at group housing societies and industries premises to ensure maximum coverage.

"We sent our health teams to gated communities and industries for vaccination. Ambulances were stationed at these camps to shift beneficiary to a nearby hospital in case of any Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI). It was, perhaps, the first such initiative in India. We got calls from health authorities in Mumbai and Bengaluru to enquire about these camps," said Dr. Singh, also deputy civil surgeon.

The health department also identified certain categories left out of the vaccination coverage for various reasons, such as transgenders, widows and physically challenged people, and held special camps for them. "We continue to hold camps for autorickshaw drivers, domestic helps and labourers," said Dr. Singh.

**Special camps** 

Besides, special camps have been held for media persons, advocates, bank employees and judicial staff, among

With people scared to go to hospitals for vaccination post-second wave, civil surgeon Virender Yadav suggested setting up of drivethrough vaccination centres in the basements of shopping malls and other buildings allowing the beneficiaries to get vaccinated without having to step out of their cars. The drive was not just received well by the masses, but was also lauded by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a virtual meeting with district magistrates last month. "We have conducted more than 20 such drives. On June 21,

He added that the administration could achieve cent per cent vaccination for its population if vaccines were available.

we vaccinated around 5,500

against the target of 2,500 in

such drives," said Mr. Yadav.

A large network of private hospitals in the city too have contributed towards the vaccination coverage. As many as 81 private hospitals are empanelled in the city for COVID-19 vaccination and 23 of them are conducting vaccination sessions.

"On an average, around 7,000-8,000 doses are administered in all private hospitals put together. No other city in Haryana has such a large network of private hospitals," said Dr. Singh.

# DU steps up efforts to tackle possible third COVID wave

It plans to sign MoUs with labs to strengthen facilities

STAFF REPORTER

Delhi University on Wednesday said steps were being taken to augment facilities for a possible third wave by setting up COVID care centres, procuring pulse oximeters and thermal scanners, and installing oxygen plants.

The university said that Hansraj College and Janki Devi Memorial College have offered to set up COVID care facilities with 100 beds each, while adding that one of the campus hostels will also be offered with 200 beds.

## Facilities needed

"These facilities will need beds, medical equipment, oxygen supply through in-situ small-scale oxygen plants with direct pipelines to beds, generators for uninterrupted power supply, medicines, facility for food, and above all salaries for doctors and nurses who are in great demand but short in supply. DU is trying its best to make the arrangements," the university said in a statement.

DU is also planning to sign MoUs with labs and organisations to strengthen facilities at healthcare centres, of-



A nurse administers a vaccine shot to a youth at Delhi University's Shivaji College. • FILE PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

ficials added.

In a statement, DU said it will also set up an oxygen plant that can fill 50-80 cylinders per day and will provide cylinders to DU members and to those in the neighbourhood.

"We have a total of 120 establishments in the university, including colleges, hostels and two campuses. With an average of two concentrators for each unit, we need about 240 oxygen concentrators. In addition, for the large number of students in hostels as well as residences, it will be worthwhile to have about 500 pulse oximeters and about 100 thermal scanners," the statement read.

The university added that arrangements have been made to augment tests for COVID-19 and three such camps have already been conducted at Miranda House, Janki Devi Memorial College and Gargi College.

Earlier, the university had also organised vaccination facilities at its three health centres apart from isolation centres being run by Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College and Lakshmibai College.

Earlier in the day, North Delhi Mayor Raja Iqbal Singh held a meeting with the director of DU South Campus and discussed civic issues as well as installation of a medical oxygen plant.

# Admissions for entry-level classes begin from June 26

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Directorate of Education on Wednesday released guidelines for admission to entry-level classes at Sarvodaya Vidyalayas for the academic session 2021-22. Each Sarvodaya Vidyalaya has at least one Nursery/KG/ Class-1 section and will comprise 40 students.

The application forms will be available from June 26 and the last date for submission of forms is July 11. The DoE has instructed heads of school to keep the forms available with the security guard at the entrance of the school.

In a circular, the DoE said children residing in Delhi and within 1 km of the school are eligible to apply. For nursery admission, the applicant should have completed three years of age on March 31; for KG, four years; and for Class-1, five years.

Students will be selected through a draw of lots and results will be declared on July 23.

# Karnam Malleswari made first V-C of Delhi Sports University

'Institute will help individuals build their athletic talent'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Delhi government on Wednesday appointed India's first woman Olympic medal winner Karnam Malleswari as the Vice-Chancellor of the upcoming Delhi Sports University (DSU).

Announcing the appointment, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal tweeted, "Our dream of launching Delhi Sports University is coming true. It gives me great pride that Olympic medallist Karnam Malleswari will be first Vice-Chancellor of Delhi Sports University. We discussed the vision of Delhi Sports University today

**Creating Olympians** Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said the purpose of establishing DSU is to build and create athletes who will make "our nation proud". He added that the Delhi government is trying to create an atmosphere where sports flourish and sportspersons can be trained to a level where they bring "at least 50 me-



Karnam Malleswari.

dals each year" and the Capital can host the 2048 Olympic Games. "The intention of build-

ing a world-class sports university is not to generate jobs but to provide a space for individuals to build their athletic talent. Through the university, we want to nurture and foster talent so that we can say at least 50 Olympians are proud alumni of Delhi Sports University. It will also provide state-ofthe-art sports facilities. Our goal is to prepare international medal-winning champions in at least 10 sports fields," Mr. Sisodia said.

Ms. Malleswari said that the university would start visiting schools once they reopen and conduct a talent hunt for students interested in sports. "There are many children who take keen interest in sports but due to lack of any infrastructure, are unable to pursue their athletic dream. We will identify students and match their athletic skills to the sports they are apt for," she said.

Mr. Sisodia said the degree a student will receive upon graduation from the Delhi Sports University will be equivalent to degrees in mainstream courses.

The Delhi Assembly had in 2019 passed a Bill to set up the DSU which would offer graduation, postgraduation and doctorate degrees in cricket, football, and hockey among other sports. DSU was envisioned to streamline sports facilities and bring sports talents under its ambit to prepare athletes for world-class competitions, the Delhi government had said.

# 'TikTok aspirant' reunited with family

Police trace girl to Etawah; she had left home after being scolded by mother

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Fed up of being constantly chided by her mother for not studying, a 12-year-old girl aspiring to be a social media star left her home in south Delhi but was finally reunited with her family here after the police traced her from Etawah, an officer said on Wednesday.

The girl allegedly took a train from Delhi and reached Etawah in Uttar Pradesh,

The matter came to light

after the child's mother went to Sangam Vihar police station on June 18 and stated that her daughter was allegedly kidnapped. She informed that her daughter was carrying a mobile phone but the device was not active, the police said.

The following day, the girl's mother informed ASI Jai Singh that she had received a call from a woman named Shanti Devi who stated that her daughter was found sitting at Etawah railway station, a senior police officer said. Deputy Commissioner of

Police (South) Atul Kumar Thakur said, "Our team reached Etawah but the phone number of the said woman was found to be switched off. With the help of technical assistance and locals, our team located Shanti Devi who was found to be living in Etawah where she runs a stall near a temple."

The team reached finally located Ms. Devi's house and recovered the missing girl

When interrogated, Ms. Devi revealed that the girl was found sitting at Etawah

from there, he said.

railway station. Hence, she took the girl with her to her house and informed her mother, Mr. Thakur said. "The girl said she left her home because she wanted to

be a TikTok star and her mother used to scold her about studies. She then took a train from Delhi and reached Etawah but got + scared and went with Ms. Devi to her house," he said.

# Tales of drudgery



Migrant workers at ISBT Anand Vihar on a hot Wednesday afternoon in Delhi. • SANDEEP SAXENA

# Constable's pistol misfires outside envoy's home

Police say it was an accident; no one injured as bullet pierced roof of PCR van

STAFF REPORTER

A woman constable stationed outside the house of of an Israeli diplomat accidentally fired off a shot while she was allegedly handling her service pistol on Wednesday evening, the police said.

On Wednesday at 6.50

p.m., information was received from security officer, Israel Embassy, that a PCR staffer had misfired a round at the residence of Israeli

The police found that the woman constable of the PCR unit, stationed outside the diplomat's house, acci-

Embassy attaché at Paschi-

mi Marg, Vasant Vihar.

dentally fired a round while handling the 9mm pistol.

However, no one was hurt in the incident as the bullet pierced the roof of the police van, a senior police officer said.

**Inquiry under way** The crime team was also

called to the spot, the police

said, adding further inquiry is under way. Earlier in January this

year, a minor blast had occurred outside the Israeli Embassy, located in a highsecurity zone of the Capital.

Security was beefed up outside the embassy as well as the residences of the di-

# Two, including woman, arrested for cheating

Accused used to pose as suitor on matrimonial sites and loot girls' kin

STAFF REPORTER

Two persons, including a woman, were arrested in separate incidents for allegedly cheating people in the national capital, the police

said on Wednesday. The accused have been identified as Sahil Arora (24), a resident of Uttam Nagar, and Anjita (32), a resident of Chhawla

One gold chain of 121.180 g worth ₹6.53 lakh and two iPhones recovered from Arora's possession and one gold chain recovered from Anjita, the police said.

In the first incident, Arora made accounts on matrimonial sites posing to be a rich eligible suitor. He started contacting the

girls' families and became friendly with them. Later, he asked for expensive gifts like gold ornaments, iPhones and other high-end gifts from their families and relatives on the pretext of paying them through RTGS, a senior police officer said.

In the present case, one of the relatives of a woman told Arora that he deals in gold and diamond jewellery on demand. Arora requested him to make a heavy gold chain. On June 16, he went to the house of complainant in Vasant Kunj, the officer said. Arora took delivery of the

chain and in return, he flashed his phone towards the complainant saying that he has done RTGS payment and it will take some time to credit in the account, the

When no payment was credited in the bank account of the complainant, he approached the police.

During investigation, the police got a tip-off and a trap

was laid at Uttam Nagar from

where Arora was apprehended, the officer said, adding that he was previously involved in three criminal in Delhi. In other incident, com-

plainant Shamsher Singh reported that on June 12, when he reached near Western Inn, Mahipalpur, on the highway, he fell from his bike due to strong winds, the police said. Meanwhile, some passersby helped him in getting up. During the process, some unknown person took

away his gold chain. A trap was laid on Tuesday and Anjita was held.

# Six held for cheating on pretext of giving jobs

They would call victims posing as employees of well-known consultancies

STAFF REPORTER

Six men were arrested from north west Delhi's Adarsh Nagar for allegedly cheating people on the pretext of providing jobs, the police said

on Wednesday. The accused have been identified as Satish Kumar Singh (32), Naveen Kumar (24), Abhishek Shrivastav (23), Ajit Kumar (20), Sudhir (24) and Ravi Singh (20), all residents of Jahangirpuri.

On April 10, a complaint was received where complainant Parvesh Kumar alleged that he had applied for a job partment store through an online advertisement, the police said.

of a store supervisor in a de-

He received a call from an unknown person who posed to be the manager of the store and said that they had shortlisted his resume for the role of the store supervisor, the police said.

They asked for documents on WhatsApp. When the documents got verified, they arrange a telephonic interview. Later, they asked him to pay ₹650 for document verification and ₹3,100

for uniform. He paid the

amount through UPI application, a senior officer said. They said that his selec-

tion was confirmed and asked him to deposit ₹5,000 for laptop security which they would give him for his work. He paid the money, the officer said.

When they asked for ₹11,000 as insurance, he refused and realised that they were cheating him, the pol-

"During investigation, a fake call centre was found running at Panchvati, Adarsh Nagar and six accused persons were arrested," Additional Deputy Commissioner (North-West) Guriqbal Singh Sidhu. They had opened a call

centre at LIC building, Panchvati, Adarsh Nagar, in the name of a consultancy for assisting job aspirants to get jobs in various companies, the police said.

They put their advertisement online for providing jobs in different companies. They used to get the data

of job aspirants and call them in the name of different famous consultancies, the police said.





RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav blames Bihar CM for split in LJP



China raising Tibetan forces near Sikkim, Ladakh, Bhutan borders



wins inaugural World Test Championship



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Former Sri Lankan PM Ranil Wickremesinghe returns to Parliament

New Zealand beats India, page 13



Independent MLAs in Rajasthan back Gehlot

Independent MLAs supporting the Congress government in Rajasthan on Wednesday expressed faith in the leadership of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot amid the demand for a share in power by former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot's camp.

## NGO files plea against former NRC Coordinator

**NEWS** ▶ PAGE 8

The NGO whose July 2009 petition in the Supreme Court led to the exercise of updating the NRC in Assam has filed a complaint against former NRC State Coordinator Prateek Hajela. In its FIR, the Assam Public Works said Mr. Hajela manipulated the family tree verification during the NRC update exercise.

**NEWS** ▶ PAGE 8

## Sisodia hits out at Centre for 'rejecting' ration plan

NEW DELHI Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Wednesday said the Central government has sent a letter stating that it has "rejected" the proposal for doorstep delivery of ration in the city. "I want to ask the Prime Minister, why are you always in a mood to quarrel?" Mr. Sisodia said. **CITY** ▶ PAGE 2

# Banks get assets worth ₹8,441 crore from ED

Action follows probe into Mallya, Nirav-Mehul Choksi cases

DEVESH K. PANDEY NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate has transferred assets worth ₹8,441.5 crore to public sector banks that suffered losses to the tune of ₹22,585.83 crore due to frauds committed allegedly by businessmen Vijay Mallva, Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksi. All three accused had fled overseas.

The agency said it recently transferred attached shares worth ₹6,600 crore to a State Bank of India-led consortium as per an order of the PMLA Special Court, Mumbai.

On Wednesday, the Debt Recovery Tribunal, on behalf of the consortium, sold the shares of United Breweries Limited for ₹5,824.5 crore. Further realisation of ₹800 crore by sale of shares is expected by June 25.

Owing to the help extended by the ED, the public sector banks earlier recovered ₹1,357 crore by selling the shares. "Thus, the banks shall be realising a total amount of ₹9,041.5 crore through sale of a part of the assets attached/seized by the ED...," said the agency.

As on date, of the total attachment worth ₹18,170.02 crore, assets valued ₹329.67 crore have been confiscated properties worth **In the net** Assets worth ₹18,170.02 crore have been seized in the money laundering cases against businessmen Vijay Mallya, Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksi.

## DETAILS OF SOME OF THE ASSETS **VIJAY MALLYA** CASE Bank balance of ₹34 crore Two flats in Bengaluru and Mumbai 4.5 acre industrial plot in Chennai

28.75 acre coffee

plantation in Coorg

euro in Paris

Properties in UB City and

Kingfisher Tower in Bengaluru

**NIRAV MODI-MEHUL CHOKSI CASE** 

Property worth 1.6 million

- Mumbai Solar power plant and 135 acres of land
  - in Ahmednagar's Karjat • One windmill in

Six residential flats.

10 office premises in

- Residential flats in the **United Arab Emirates**
- Artworks of Amrita Sher-Gil, M.F. Husain; luxury cars, watches
- and handbags Factory worth ₹13.14 crore in Thailand
- One property in London and two in **New York**
- Valuables worth about ₹255 crore in Hong Kong

₹9,041.5 crore – amounting to 40% of the total loss to the banks – have been handed over to them

Based on the cases registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation, the ED had taken up a money laundering probe that helped unearth a complex web of domestic and international transactions and stashing of assets abroad by the accused persons and their associates. They had used dummy entities controlled by them for rotation and siphoning of the funds provided by the banks. As part of the investigation, the ED took steps to attach or seize assets worth ₹18,170.02 crore.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8

# Modi to meet J&K leaders today

## Talks seen as bid to settle 'political equilibrium'

NISTULA HEBBAR PEERZADA ASHIO NEW DELHI/SRINAGAR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will head the talks on Thursday with representatives of mainstream political parties from Jammu and Kashmir, which will be an attempt, many in the government say, to settle a "political equilibrium" with regard to the Union Territory (UT).

This comes 22 months after the passage of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation



Looking ahead: PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti, NC leader Faroog Abdullah and CPI(M)'s M.Y. Tarigami. • NISSAR AHMAD

Act, 2019, removing the special status of J&K and splitting the erstwhile State into

two Union Territories. Talks will be held at Prime Minister Modi's official residence, 7, Lok Kalyan Marg, with Home Minister Amit Shah in attendance.

The government is clear that there is no going back on the removal of Article 370, and while statehood

can be discussed, the main

agenda for the government will be seeking cooperation from the parties on the delimitation exercise under way for the Assembly seats.

Parties that make up the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), such as the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and the National Conference (NC), however, will stick to their position of seeking the restoration of Article 370, and the immediate restoration of statehood, with the Congress and the National Panthers Party pushing for restoration of full statehood.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8

# Kerala capital bucks excess deaths trend

## 1.196 'excess deaths' were reported in 2021

SRINIVASAN RAMANI S.R. PRAVEEN CHENNAI/THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Unlike other cities in India which registered excess deaths during the first and second COVID-19 waves, Kerala's capital Thiruvananthapuram recorded a decrease in the number of overall deaths in 2020 and 1,196 "excess deaths" in 2021 (till May), according to the Civil Registration System data accessed by The Hindu through a Right to Information application.

Compared with the pre-

# Fewer deaths than usual

Between April 2020 and May 2021, despite a cumulative COVID-19 death toll of 765 in the Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation, the estimated decrease in overall deaths was 646

	excess deaths	deaths	factor
Thiruvananthapuram	-646	765	<0
Bengaluru	31,029	13,346	2.3
Chennai	29,910	7,091	4.2
Hyderabad	32,751	NA	NA

pandemic years (2015 to 2019) when the city corporation registered an average 16,652 deaths, in 2020, despite the pandemic, only 14,734 deaths occurred. If instead of averages, a year-byyear growth rate of deaths is

considered, the city's 14,734 registered deaths were fewer than the estimated 18,340 deaths in 2020.

This is in line with the 2020 figures for the entire State of Kerala, released earlier this year, which showed that the absolute number of deaths in 2020 reduced by 11.1% compared with the 2019 figure. (This gap has closed to 7.9% now, according to the latest figures.)

A natural reduction in deaths due to fewer road accidents and respiratory illnesses, such as COPD, H1N1 and pneumonia, besides water and food-borne illnesses as people stayed indoors was one reason. But the lower COVID-19 mortality in Kerala was also due to an effective public health response that stood out in comparison with that of other States. This factor is evident in Thiruvananthapuram as well.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8

# <sup>+</sup> Chautala to be released from Tihar

Delhi govt. orders remission of sentence to decongest jails

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Former Haryana Chief Minister and Indian National Lok Dal president Om Prakash Chautala, who is serving a 10year prison term in a teacher recruitment scam case, will be released from the Tihar jail as the Delhi government has granted a remission of his sentence, officials said on Wednesday.

The 86-year-old leader was jailed on January 16, 2013 and is out on emergency parole since March 26, 2020. He will be released as part of

a drive to decongest Delhi's prisons given the pandemic situation.

The Delhi government on Family 'grateful' Monday issued an order regarding special remission of six months to convicts who have already served nine years and six months of their 10-year prison term.

authorities concerned at Tihar jail no. 2 informed Chautala's lawyer Amit Sahni about the development via email on Tuesday. According to the communication, Chautala would be finally released

before the jail authorities.

According to sources, the

after he formally surrenders

Reacting to the development, Chautala's younger son Abhay said his family will always be grateful to the people for their "love and prayers in times of crisis".

Chautala's grandson Dushyant, who left the INLD and floated the Jannavak Janta Party in 2018, said he learnt about the development through media. "It is a matter of happiness," he said. (With inputs from PTI)

# BJP MPs protest at House panel meet on vaccine

SOBHANA K NAIR

A meeting of the parliamentary standing committee on science and technology on Wednesday to discuss "vaccine development for CO-VID-19" and "genetic sequencing of coronavirus and its variants" saw high drama with the BJP members objecting to deliberations on these subjects, claiming that any investigation into it could demoralise the scientific community.

Sources said the BJP members staged a walkout

when Chairman and senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh refused to postpone the meeting as demanded by them. They argued that it was not the opportune time to debate "vaccine development" since the country was still fighting the pandemic.

Countering them, Opposition members asserted that four lakh people had lost their lives and a forensic assessment of the pandemic was essential and urgent.

**JAIRAM RAMESH REFUSES TO PUT OFF MEET ▶** PAGE 9

# Blast near Hafiz Saeed's home, 3 killed +

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

A car bomb killed three people in Pakistan's eastern megacity Lahore on Wednesday in an attack officials believe targeted the police Muslim cleric. "Our assessment is that

the most obvious target was the police and security forces," said provincial police chief Inam Ghani. He said the blast site, in

and security forces near the the affluent neighbourhood home of a banned firebrand of Johar Town, was near the

home of Hafiz Saeed, the alleged mastermind of the 2008 Mumbai attacks. "The vehicle might have succeeded in reaching there had this police checkpoint not been present," said Mr. Ghani.



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# Centre using brute force against Alapan: Mamata

CM flays penalty proceedings move

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Weddescribed the nesday Centre's proposed move to start major penalty proceedings against the former State Chief Secretary Alapan Bandyopadhyay as highly irresponsible behaviour.

She said the Centre was victimising Mr. Bandyopadhyay and using brute force against a very competent and dedicated officer.

"If by using brute force someone wants to be a selfish giant, then the law will take its own course," the Chief Minister said.

Mr. Bandyopadhyay, she said, was free to take his own decisions, and the State government would fully support him. After the former Chief Secretary opted to retire on May 31, the State government appointed him Chief Adviser to the Chief Minister.

Ms. Banerjee said that the officer, who had lost three family members, including his brother, to COVID-19 in a span of a few weeks, was undergoing "mental agony".

**Governor interfering in my** area of work: Speaker

West Bengal Speaker Biman Banerjee has alleged that the State's Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar was interfering in his area of work. Differences between the State government and Governor had surfaced on numerous occasions.

She said the former Chief Secretary was not alone in his fight and he was getting support from bureaucrats across the country.

**Bypolls in West Bengal** 

Taking a swipe at the Election Commission of India, the Chief Minister said it must be waiting for an approval from the Prime Minister for holding bypolls in the State. "I request the Prime Minister to allow the byelection," she said.

Election to several constituencies where contestants had died or resigned after the polls are pending. The Chief Minister herself is likely to contest the Bhawanipur Assembly seat, which was vacated by Minister Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay.



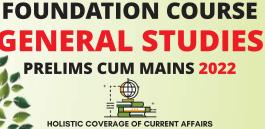






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# Over 87K prosecuted for COVID violations in 3 weeks: govt. data

On June 20, as many as 5,583 were fined, the highest tally after 'Unlock 3'

JATIN ANAND

The gradual unlock process in the Capital has led to the prosecution of over 87,000 people for COVID-related violations from May 31 to June 20, according to Delhi government records.

As many as 4,153 people were prosecuted daily for not adhering to COVID-appropriate behaviour by Delhi government teams amounting to a total of 87,218 fines being issued for violations ranging from not wearing masks, wearing them improperly, to not following social distancing and spitting in public over 21 days.

According to government records, violations have gone up every week with more activities being opened up even as new cases of infection went down with as many as 6,507 new infections being recorded during the three-week period.

The highest number of people to be prosecuted -5,583 – was on June 20.

A majority - 5,255 people or around 81% of those who

STAFF REPORTER

The Capital reported 111 new

COVID-19 cases in the last 24

hours, according to a health

bulletin released by the Del-

hi government on Wednes-

day. However, 477 positive

cases, pertaining to earlier

weeks have been added on

the ICMR portal on Tuesday

by Central government-run

Vardhman Mahavir Medical

College and associated Saf-

darjung Hospital, as per the

ed by the Delhi government

as cases reported in the last

24 hours but have been ad-

ded to the total tally, taking

the total cases to 14.33,366

from 14,32,778 on Tuesday.

deaths were reported, push-

ing the death toll to 24,940,

as per the bulletin. A total of

76,185 tests were done and

the test positivity rate (TPR)

was 0.15%. Of the total cases,

At the same time, seven

This has not been count-

NEW DELHI



Officials issuing challan to a motorist for not wearing mask in

People waiting for RT-PCR test at a centre in Mahindra Park

on Wednesday. • SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

14,06,629 people have reco-

vered and there are 1,797 ac-

9.76 lakh doses available

Presenting a daily vaccina-

tion bulletin, AAP MLA At-

ishi said that the Central go-

vernment has combined

vaccination stocks of both

categories to one and Delhi

now has 9.76 lakh doses of

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Linen, Cotton & Woollen

got infected during the three weeks of the unlock process during this interval - were aged between 14 and 60.

As more and more citizens step out, given the added number of activities allowed every week, more being prosecutions are made; but the higher prosecution is also due to more people being found not adhering to COVID norms.

Daily COVID-19 cases continue to

dip in city; test positivity at 0.15%

111 new cases, 7 deaths reported; active cases stand at 1,797

During the first phase of unlock between May 31 and June 6, when construction and industrial activities were allowed, 20,966 fines were issued and 3,321 infections were recorded during

Between June 7 and June 13, Unlock 2 saw Delhi Metro being permitted to ply and shops at city markets allowed to open on an odd-

"Delhi has 9.10 lakh Cov-

ishield doses and 66,000

Covaxin doses - two days of

Covaxin and 13 days of Cov-

ishield stock available. It is

our request to the Central

government that as quickly

and in as much quantity.

they should make the vac-

cines available," Ms. Atishi

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even basis. A total of 29,343 people were prosecuted while the number of infections went down to 2,080.

Cases dip, violations soar During Unlock 3, between June 14 and June 20, when the Delhi Metro continued to function and all shops and city markets were allowed to open, the number of violations soared to 36,909 even as infections reduced to 1,106.

The number of citizens falling in the 14-60 age group - mostly engaged in the activities gradually allowed in the city – who got infected during Unlock 1 was 2,627 out of 3,321; during Unlock 2 this stood at 1,697 of 2,080 and Unlock 3 saw 931 infections among the age group out of 1,106.

The Capital went through a series of six-week-long lockdowns between mid-April and May during which prosecution figures remained relatively low compared to three recent weeks during which the city has been "unlocking" in phases.

# In single-day drive, 2,400 get vaccine

SAURABH TRIVEDI GHAZIABAD

Wednesday. organising

said Mr. Singh. Currently, which 1,822 were vaccinatinmates of 45 years and

Terror suspect Abdul Karim Tunda was also vaccinated around a month ago during the first phase. He added that there were very few COVID-19 cases in the prison and not a single the virus. The situation is under control.

recently admitted in jail will not be vaccinated because they don't know if the person was infected or not. So to be on the safer side, they will have to wait for three months for the vaccine.

# Dasna inmates

Surinder Kohli, convicted in the infamous 2006 Nithari serial murders, was among the 2,400 inmates who were vaccinated in the biggest single-day vaccination drive at Dasna jail Ghaziabad

Jail Superintendent of Dasna iail, Alok Singh, said: "We have vaccinated more than 2,400 inmates in the 18-45 age group during the mega vaccination camp. It has not been done by any other jails in the country. We are regularly awareness drive in prison to educate inmates to get vaccinated,"

around 4,800 inmates are lodged in Dasna jail and out of ed earlier that include 650 above those who have got their second dose, said Mr.

death was reported due to

The inmates who have

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THE HINDU

India's National Newspaper

# Sisodia, Kejriwal hit out at Centre for rejecting doorstep ration plan

Union government raises questions on its implementation

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Wednesday said that the Central government in a letter said it has "rejected" a "proposal" for doorstep delivery of ration in the city and attacked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for it.

[Tuesday], "Yesterday there was a letter from the Union government to the Delhi government that proposal for doorstep delivery of ration has been rejected. We had not sent any proposal. It is the State government's right to decide how to distribute ration," Mr. Sisodia said.

The letter sent on June 22 by the Department of Food and Public Distribution of the Central government rejected the Delhi government's "proposal" for a doorstep delivery of ration and suggested that the scheme be started first as a pilot in selected areas of the

It "clarified that the proposal of GNCTD (Delhi government) doesn't meet the statuand functional requirements of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) and therefore, the proposal made GNCTD can't be accepted."

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said that there should not be a political fight over doorstep delivery of ration.

"Fighting with everyone all the time is not right - Twitter, Lakshadweep, Mamta didi, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Delhi government, farmers, traders, even the Chief Secretary of West Bengal. How will our nation develop if all our Central government does is to



People collecting ration from a centre in Adarsh Nagar. • SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

fight constantly? Doorstep delivery of ration is in the national interest. Don't fight over it," Mr. Kejriwal said in a tweet in Hindi

"We received a disparaging letter from the Central government citing senseless reasons to stop the doorstep delivery of ration to our people," Mr. Sisodia said.

Meanwhile, Delhi Food and Civil Supplies Minister Imran Hussain said that the Delhi government is firmly committed to provide free ration to both NFS beneficiaries and non-cardholders as long as the situation warrants. .

## What Centre said

The letter said it was not clear on how Delhi government would maintain uninterrupted delivery in case beneficiaries change their address, or whether beneficiaries would be allowed to opt-out from doorstep delivery at any point during the year, and revert to picking up their ration at the fair price shops.

It also asked how the Delhi government would ensure that their delivery vehicles

would be able to access narrow streets or high rise apartments, how it would coordinate delivery timings if beneficiaries are not at home during the day, and how biometric authentication would be ensured at homes in areas without strong connectivity. "The scheme may also face

administrative and opera-

tional hurdles in terms of leakages, diversions, accountability issues, and assurance of timely availability of right quantity and quality of foodgrains," said the letter, adding that without monitoring and an institutionalised oversight mechanism, there is likely to be a surge of grievances and complaints in the courts. Questions were also raised about the accountability of delivery contractors, and the measures to prevent adulteration and diversion by delivery vehicle operators. The viability of fair price shops could also be impacted, it

The Centre also raised concerns about how doorstep delivery scheme could be integrated with the One Nation One Ration Card scheme to ensure that street dwellers, ragpickers, migrant workers, construction workers, rickshaw pullers and others who may not have a permanent address in Delhi will be able to receive their ration alloca-

The Food Ministry's letter follows an earlier letter on June 17, issuing an ultimatum to the Delhi government to operationalise ePoS machines and ONORC by June 30.

# Apply 'One **Nation One** Ration Card scheme: BJP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The BJP on Wednesday demanded the Delhi government to fully implement the Centre's 'One Nation, One Ration Card' scheme in the Capital. It accused the government of lying about its provisions to the people to score political brownie points.

Leader of the Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Ramvir Singh Bidhuri questioned why none of the Central government's welfare schemes had been implemented in Delhi, depriving citizens of their benefits.

## 'Betrayal of Delhiites'

"The Kejriwal government has betrayed Delhiites not only on the issue of ration but on vaccines, medicines and oxygen as well. It does not seem to be bothered even about court directives and continues to tell one lie after another," Mr. Bidhuri alleged.

North East Delhi MP Manoj Tiwari said there were 60 lakh people in Delhi without ration cards despite having applied for these a long time ago.

"If the Kejriwal government wants to give free ration to poor, they can always buy it from the Food Corporation of India. The Central government distributes ration across the country through an electronic system but Delhi is the only State where it is not in force because of pressure from the ration mafia," Mr. Tiwari alleged.

# Extreme heat, weak structure hinder probe

Firefighters couldn't collect DNA samples; shoe factory owner, father absconding

STAFF REPORTER

Extreme heat and vulnerable structure of the two-storey building caused hindrance in carrying out investigation for the third consecutive day at a shoe godown in west Delhi, where a massive fire broke out on Monday, police said.

Firefighters have identified two spots inside the building where suspected charred human remains have been spotted. But only DNA sampling will help investigators in ascertaining the identity of those six workers who are still reported missing, they said.

## 6 fire tenders stationed

Six fire tenders are still at the spot conducting search operations, said an official, adding that samples are yet to be collected from the building by the forensic exfurther perts for examination.

"The temperature inside the building is still extreme. Only the firemen have been able to get inside yet. They have informed us that charred remains suspected to be of humans have been spotted by them at two spots inside the building.



Nagar in New Delhi. • FILE PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Our main concern is to get the samples lifted from the spot for further examination so that we can get DNA profiling done to ascertain and establish the identity of the missing men," a senior police officer said.

The officer said another

hindrance is the structure of the building, which is "weak". The structure is highly unstable and the terrace of the top floor of the two storey-building has already caved in. "Our staffers and forensic experts have not been able to enter the building yet. Our police teams had access to limited areas but again due to extreme temperature, the samples are yet to be lifted from the spot," he said. Deputy Commissioner of

Police (Outer) Parvinder Singh said: "Our teams are conducting raids and efforts are on to nab Pankaj Garg (32), owner of the company. He has been absconding since the day of incident along with his father, who is director of company."

FSL team to visit today

Garg, a resident of Pitampura has been into shoe business for a long time as his extended family members also deal in the same trade, the officer said. Forensic experts from Forensic Science Laboratory, Rohini are likely to visit the spot on Thurs-

day as they still have not been able to enter the building because of the high temperature, police said.

The three-member team of from FSL, Rohini, which visited the spot on Tuesday, could only carry out photography and videography of the building from outside.

The fire broke out on Monday at the shoe godown in Udyog Nagar, and 35 fire tenders and around 140 fire personnel were pressed into service to douse the blaze.

The six men reported to be missing have been identified as brother duo Sonu and Vikram, Shamshad, Abhishek, Ajay and Neeraj, said the police. Prima facie, electric short-circuit is suspected to be the reason but only a detailed examination will reveal exact cause of the fire, the senior police officer

The building also did not have any fire safety equipment in place and was heavily jammed with highly combustible materials due to which the fire spread fast, according to fire officials. The building has been declared dangerous by the area's civic body on Monday following the blaze, they

# BJP spokespersons quit WhatsApp group

'Leaders disappointed with media wing'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The disenchantment of senior Delhi BJP spokespersons is playing out on the party's internal Whatsapp groups. Party insiders claim that old hands are mostly frustrated with the media department's handling of the party's affairs

Media appearance

on a daily basis.

added to this is that spokespersons of the party's State unit are neither "allowed" to appear on national channels nor "al-

Delhi-based issues due to the participation of national spokespersons on many occasions.

According to party sources, Delhi BJP spokespersons Harish Khurana and Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga quit a significant internal WhatsApp group within minutes of being added on Tuesday evening.

Both Mr. Khurana and Mr. Bagga had quit the group over a month ago before it was decided to include them on it once again. However, according to a senior party leader, both chose to leave it

# get ₹10K each as COVID relief

1,825 workers

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Delhi government has granted ₹10,000 each to 1,825 construction workers, authorities said. The government has already distributed ₹5,000 each to over two lakh workers.

"I urge all construction workers to get registered with the Delhi Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board to avail benefits of welfare schemes. Delhi government has already disbursed ₹5,000 each to 2,17,039 construction workers as COVID relief disbursement this year," said Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia.

## NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY Invitation for Bid through **GeM Portal**

raymond

Sr. Divisional Material Manager North Eastern Railway, Lucknow and on behalf of The President of India, Invites Bid through GeM Portal for the supply of the following item. Complete description of the iten and other conditions are available or website www.gem.gov.in S.N. 1, Bid No. GEM/2021/B/1282876

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on the web site www.gem.gov.in

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SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWA

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on 19/07/2021. For further details please visit our /ebsite: http://www.ireps.gov.in/.

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# IN BRIEF

10 more police stations to come up in G.B. Nagar

Work is under way for setting up 10 new police stations and two police posts across Noida and Greater Noida in Gautam Buddha Nagar, according to officials. Also in the offing are barracks and hostels for police personnel, officials said.

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# What is understood to have

lowed to speak" on

again.

THE HINDU DELHI

THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021

# VACCINE FOR ALL FREEFORAL

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Jai Ram Thakur Chief Minister, Himachal Pradesh

# Now, World's Largest **Free Vaccination Campaign**

# Corona Will Lose, India Will Win

- Free COVID-19 vaccination for everyone above 18 years of age begins in India
- So far, vaccines were free for people of 45 years age and above
- Vaccines will be available free of cost in government-run vaccination centres
- Government of India is providing free vaccines to all states
- Central government has provided 30 crore vaccine doses so far
- Three vaccines approved in India so far, several new vaccines in approval process

# COVID-19 VACCINE

# **Get Vaccinated, Stay Safe**

- Vaccines are safe, ignore rumours
- Visit www.cowin.gov.in to register and get full details on vaccination centres and vaccines
- Follow COVID-appropriate behaviour even after vaccination



Central Government is providing Free Vaccination under a special campaign to every indian from now. The biggest beneficiary of this phase of India's vaccination drive shall be the poor, the middle class and the youth of the country. All of us should pledge to get ourselves vaccinated Together we will defeat COVID-19.

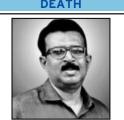
Prime Minister Narendra Modi

TOGETHER LET US DEFEAT COVID-19, GET YOURSELF VACCINATED AS PER YOUR TURN

INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH

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Chief of Bureau, The Hindu. Thiruvananthapuram. Passed away on 23-06-2021 TC 4/1206, KRAC-32, Sathi Bhavan, vdiar PO, Thiruvananthapuram-695003

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# HC reprimands Uttarakhand govt.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NAINITAL

The Uttarakhand High Court on Wednesday reprimanded the State government for the manner in which it was preparing to deal with the possible third

"Stop fooling us and tell us the truth. Don't tell the Chief Justice that there is Ram Rajya in Uttarakhand and that we live in heaven. Show us the ground realities," the High Court said.

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PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given that Ramesh Kaur D/o Hukum Singh R/o 15/32-A, Second Floor, Tilak Nagar, Delhi is applying to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Home Affairs for Naturalization and that any person who knows any reason why naturalization should not be granted should send a written signed statement of the facts to the said Secretary.

Gopal Dass Koli (Advocate) Ch. No. 535 A, First floor, Western Wing Tis Hazari Courts, New Delhi 110054

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

client Yogita Kapoor W/o. Sushil Kapo - North Block, West Vinod Nagar, Del 110092 has resigned and have ceased herself to be as partner of "YELLOW DAY SPA" situated at SCO-84, Urban Estate, Phase-II, Market adjoining Subway Restaurant, Jalandhar City, District Jalandhar Punjab, India as well as its branch Jalandnar Punjan, India as well as its brainch office in Delhi & other states (if any) effective from 22.6.2021. Henceforth, my said client is no longer involved with the said company / firm & shall not be liable for any acts of the remaining or new partners of the company / firm. Any dealing with Yellow Day Spa company / firm or its remaining or ners, shall be done at their risk & cos

PALVINDER SINGH (Advocate)

## THEMAHINDU

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PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to all the General Public of India that my client Smt. C. Parshad W/o Lt. Sh. Shamaun Parshad R/o B-4/94 B - Keshav Puram Delhi-110035. My client's Granddaughter namely Aparajata Parshad & Daughter of Lt. Sh. Saurabh Parshad & Smt. Sakshi Dass used to misbehave with my client & tried to grab her property & my client as no control over her. Hence due to this, my client has disowned her Granddaughter from her life as well as her movable & immovable property w.e.f. 22.06.2021. Now my client will not be liable responsible for any act of her in future as my client has no concern or relation with her.

**PUBLIC NOTICE Vikrant Vikram Singh** S/o Sh. Aja umar, R/o SD-57, Sector-45, Noida, U.P 01301. Resigned as a Director from M/S 201301, Resigned as a Director from wix-Cosmopolitan Advisory Services Private Limited (Company) Registered Address C-40, Upper Ground Floor, Shash Garden, Street No.-1, Mayur Vihar Phase 1, Delhi-110091 on dated 17 June 2021

l/o 282 2nd Floor, Ashoka Enclay Main, Sector-35, Faridabad-121003 Haryana. In, hereby **disown** my children namely 1. Shiv Kumar Arora, 2. Shubham Anand W/o Shiv Kumar Arora, 3. Vikram Arora and 4. Swa Talwar W/o Vikram Arora from my all movable and immovable properties with immediate effects as they are no

Mobile: 8882303942

# 'Assam's two-child policy will stall development'

Fertility rate is below national average, says coalition of groups

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A coalition of civil society groups engaged in reproductive health has said Assam's move to adopt a two-child policy for availing benefits under government schemes will hurt the poorest besides hindering the development goals of the State.

In a statement issued on Tuesday evening, Advocating Reproductive Choices (ARC) said there was no evidence to suggest there was a population explosion in the country. Instead, NFHS-5 or the National Family Health Survey for 2019-2020 has made it clear that men and women want smaller families even without a coercive population policy.

The ARC is a coalition of 115 organisations working towards expanding contraceptive choices, improving quality of care and ensuring availability, accessibility and affordability of reproductive health and family planning services.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on June



CM Himanta Biswa Sarma

19 said that barring the tea plantation workers, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, people with more than two children would gradually not be able to avail benefits under specific schemes funded by the State.

This will be in addition to the amendment made in 2018 to the Assam Panchayat Act, 1994, which requires a two-child norm along with minimum educational qualifications and functional sanitary toilets for contesting the rural polls.

"Total Fertility Rate (TFR) in Assam is 1.9, which is less than the national average of 2.2. Data from the NFHS-5

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shows that 77% of the currently married women and 63% of men aged 15-49 years in Assam want no more children, are already sterilised or have a spouse who is already sterilised," the ARC said.

"More than 82% of women and 79% of men consider the ideal family size to be two or fewer children and 11% of currently married women in Assam have an unmet need for family planning," it ad-

## **Policy objectives**

It was critical that policy objectives catered to population stabilisation, enabling families, especially women, to exercise choices about having children. But outside Assam, even for States which had high fertility rates, there was no evidence that a twochild policy was effective, the ARC said.

The coalition alluded to a five-State study by former bureaucrat Nirmala Buch that said sex-selective and unsafe abortions increased in States that adopted the two-child

**Delhi Weather** 

**Delhi Palam Today** 

40°C Warm moderate gusty

winds likely during day. Day

will remian hot and mainly

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow** 

and humid day with partly

40°C An easy morning turn hot

Duststorm/thunderstorm likely

with light drop at few places

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Delhi City

Safdarjang

Palam

sunny

cloudy sky.

max min

28

41 28

41 28

# AAP hits out at Punjab govt. over unemployment

'Poll promise of jobs not honoured'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Leader of Opposition in Punjab Assembly Harpal Singh Cheema on Wednesday hit out at ruling Congress government, accusing it of betraying the unemployed youth of the State by not keeping its 2017 Assembly election promise of providing one job per family.

The Aam Aadmi Party leader said the Congress has also failed to keep other election promises in its over fouryear rule.

"Even the perpetrators of the desecration of Sri Guru Granth Sahib and the conspirators who shot at the Sikhs had not been punished yet. Drug mafia, transport mafia, sand and mineral mafia and hooliganism, still continues in the State and the people are suffering from the tyranny of the mafia rule," he said.

"Instead of the common people, the sons and daughters of rich Congressmen were being given government jobs. Besides, attempts were being made to fool the employees of Punjab in the name of pay commission," alleged Mr. Cheema.

RISE 05:25 SET 19:23

RISE 19:12 SET 04:37

RISE 05:26 SET 19:23

RISE 20:17 SET 05:38

RISE 05:26 SET 19:23

RISE 21:15 SET 06:43

Timings

THURSDAY, JUN. 24

FRIDAY, JUN. 25

SATURDAY, JUN. 26

DELHI



and Youth Wing State president Gurmeet Singh Meet Hayer and AAP leader Dinesh Chadha termed the claims of the State government of having provided jobs to 16.29 lakh youth of the State as a bundle of lies.

## 'Names not given'

The leaders said to a reply under RTI Act, the department of Employment Generation and Training has refused to make public the names of 16 lakh people of Punjab who got the jobs.

"Making the names public would expose the lie of the government. If the Congress government has provided jobs, then they should make all the information about giving jobs public on the government website, so that people can know the truth," said the leaders.

Separately, (AAP) MLA

# Rajasthan digital drive praised

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The digital initiatives taken in the field of education in Rajasthan during the pandemic were praised at an innovation summit, in which the experts called for extending the benefits of technology to the students.

The State's high rank in the performance grading index for school education was highlighted at the event.

## GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND ROAD CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ROAD DIVISION, DUMKA, JHARKHAND 2<sup>nd</sup> Call (PR No.-218222 Road (19-20)D

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For National Competitive Bidding e RE-Tender Reference No. RCD/DUMKA/939 Date- 23.06.2021 Reconstruction of Tharhimore to

1.	Name of the work	Tharhihat Road (Total length-
		4.775 Km) for the year 2021-22.
		Rs 1138.78925 Lacs
2(-)	Approximate value of	( Rupees Eleven Crore thirty eight
2(a)	Work (Rs. In Lacs)	lac seventy eight thousand nine
	, , , , , ,	hundred twenty five only.)
(h)	Bid Security ( Rs In	Do 11 20 L and
(b)	Lacs)	Rs 11.39 Lacs
3.	Time of Completion	Nine Months
4	Last date/Time for	26.07.2021
4.	receipt of bids	Up to 12.00 Noon.
-	Date of Publication of	05.07.2021
5	Tender on website	AT 10.30 A.M
	Name & address of	Executive Engineer
6.	office Inviting tender	Road Division, Dumka
7	Contact no. of	6203257370
7.	Procurement officer	6203237370
8.	Helpline number of e-	0651-2401010
ø.	Procurement cell	0051-2401010
		* * * * /// * * * * * * * * * * * *

Further details can be seen on website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in **Executive Engineer Road Construction Department** 

PR.NO.248446 Road(21-22):D

## north Eastern Railway Invitation for Tender through E-Procurement System

Divisional Material Manager, North astern Railway, Lucknow and on behall of The President of India, invites tenders through e- procurement system for the supply of the following item. Complet description of the item and othe conditions are available on website www.ireps.gov.in. SN.1. Tender No.: 60215519 (Iten

Code No. 60XXN001). Description of Material: Inflatable Air Bag (Rectangular type) 55 T As per COFMOW Specification lo. COFMOW/IR/Airbag/2009, Make /etter GERMANY or similar. Qty. 01 Se fender No.: (Item Code No. 60XXN002) escription of Material: Inflatable Air ag (Rectangular type) 55 T As per COFMOW Specification No. COFMOW IR/ Airbag/2009, Make-Vetter GERMANY or similar. Qty. 01 Set. Tender No.: (Item Code No. 60XXN003). **Description** of Material: Inflatable Air Bag set with all attachment (Rectangular type) Capacity-55 Ton, 01 Set with 02 Nos. Air Bag Make Vetter-GERMANY of Similar Qty. 01 Set. Due Date: 12.07.2021 Earnest Money: 68,050/-

Note - Above Tender has been upload or the website www.ireps.gov.in The firms who desire to participate in e-tender are advised to electronical e-tender are advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which they would require to have a class III Digital Signature Certificate Authority licensed by CCA India. Manual offers against e- tenders will not be considered. For details, please visit the vebsite www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Materials Manager

About any passenger amenity complai SMS on Mob. No.: 09794845955 article in train

# 🍘 NORTH EASTERN RAILWA'

Invitation for Tender through E-Procurement System Sr. Divisional Material Manager, North Eastern Railway, Lucknow and on behalf o through e-procurement system for the supply of the following item. Complete are available on website www.ireps.gov in S.N.-1, Tender No.: 60215567 (Item No 56XXN001), Description of Material PVC insulated armoured under ground unscreened RLY Signalling cable with conductivity annealed copper conducto confirming to RDSO Specification No IRS:S 63/2014 (Rev 4.0) with lates amendment if any size 6 C x 1.5 Sq mn Identification for core as per para 3:2:5: o the specification. Qtv.: 4 KM (Item No. 56XXN002), Description o Material: Supply of PVC insulated armoured under ground unscreened RL Signalling cable with conductivity anneale copper conductor confirming to RDSC Specification No. IRS:S 63/2014 (Rev 4.0 with latest amendment if any size 6 C x 1.5 Sq mm Identification for core as per para 3:2:5: of the specification, Qty.: 15 KM (Item No. 56XXN003). Description of Material: PVC insulated armoured under ground unscreened RLY Signalling cable with conductivity annealed coppe conductor confirming to RDSO Specification No. IRS:S 63/2014 (Rev 4.0 with latest amendment if any size 6 C x 1.5 Sq mm Identification for core as per para 3:2:5: of the specification, Qty.: 2 KM (Item No. 56XXN004), Description of Material: PVC insulated armoured under ground unscreened RLY Signalling cable with conductivity annealed copper conductor confirming to RDSO Specification No. IRS:S 63/2014 (Rev 4.0 with latest amendment if any size 6 C x 1.5 Sq mm Identification for core as per para 3:2:5: of the specification, Qty.: 6 KM, (Iten No. 56XXN005), Description of Material Supply of PVC insulated armoured unde ground unscreened RLY Signalling cable with conductivity annealed coppe conductor confirming to RDSC Specification No. IRS:S 63/2014 (Rev 4.0) with latest amendment if any size 6 C x 1.5 Sg mm Identification for core as per par-3:2:5: of the specification, Qty.: 2 KM, (Iten No. 56XXN006), Description of Material: Supply of PVC insulated armoured under ground unscreened RLY Signalling cable with conductivity annealed coppe conductor confirming to RDSC Specification No. IRS:S 63/2014 (Rev 4.0 with latest amendment if any size 6 C x 1.5 Sq mm Identification for core as per para 3:2:5: of the specification, Qty.: 9 KM, Due Date: 12.07.2021, Earnest Money ₹ 78,400/-. Note:- Above Tender has bee uploaded on the website www.ireps gov.in. The firms, who desire to participat in e-tender are advised to electronicall register themselves on the above websit

Sr.Divl. Materials Manage CPRO/S-13 Lucknow About any passenger amenity comp SMS on Mobile No. 09794845955

for which they would require to have a clas III Digital Signature Certificate Authority licensed by CCA India Manual offer against e-tenders will not be considered

For details, please visit the website

www.ireps.gov.in.

PWD(R&B) Division Kulgam

# Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

PSPCL Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala) Corporate Identification No. U40109PB20108GC033813/Website:pspcl.ir (Contact Number 9646107248, Email : se-tl-jal@pspcl.in)

Dy. Chief Engineer / TL , Circle, Punjab State Power Corporation Limited oom No. 310, 2nd Floor, Shakti Sadan, Jalandhar, invites One No. E-Tender o (1) Laying of tower foundations, Erection of towers for the Modification / Raising

Er. Paramjit Katnoria

Executive Engineer-I.

0.2 Sq" (DFCC Deposit work). For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 25.06.2021 from 5.00 PM onwards. Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online a

ifting of 66KV D/Ckt. line from Bassi Pathana to Sirhind crossing Railway Track

Sandhugarh-Sirhind Railway staitons

https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

DPRPB 76155/12/325/2021/5522



General public is hereby informed that this person Name: Izhar, S/o: Anwar, R/o: Near Punjabi Dhaba, Kamla Market, Delhi, Age: About 58 Years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Wearing: White & Black Checkered Shirt and Black Pant, was declared dead by Doctor during Treatment in RML Hospital, Delhi on

20.06.2021.

In this regard a DD No.7A, dated 20.06.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Kamla Market, Delhi. Dead Body has been kept preserved at MAMC Hospital, Delhi, Mortuary for 72 hours for identification. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out

information about this dead person but no clue has come to light so Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

DP/843/CD/2021

P.S. Kamla Market, Delhi Ph.: 011-23230623, 23233743

## कार्चपालक अभियंता का कार्चालय ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, साहेबगंज

आवश्यक सुचना

इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमंत्रित निविदा संख्या RDD/SD/SAHIBGANJ/10RE/2020-21, जिसका P.R. No. 248202 है, को अपरिहार्य कारणवश स्थगित किया जाता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल

PR 248454 Rural Development (21-22)\_D साहेबगज

रा०खा०आ०)–7–5 / 2014–1530, दिनांक 23.06.2021 झारखण्ड सरकार खाद्य, सार्वजनिक वितरण एव उपभोक्ता मामले विभाग

# अध्यक्ष एवं सदस्य पद पर नियुक्ति हेतू विज्ञापन

झारखण्ड राज्य खाद्य आयोग नियमावली, 2015 के तहत झारखण्ड राज्य खाद्य आयोग के अंतर्गत निम्नांकित रिक्त पदों पर चयन हेतु आवेदन आमंत्रित किया

THE PARTY OF THE P		
क्रमांक	पदनाम	रिक्तियों की संख्या
1	अध्यक्ष	1
2	सदस्य (महिला)	1
3	सदस्य (अनुसूचित जाति)	1

www.Jharkhand.gov.in => Department => Food Public Distribution & Consumer Affaris => Recruitment पर 3. योग्य व्यक्ति विहित प्रपत्र में अपना आवेदन (अनुलग्नक सहित) निबंधित डाक / स्पीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से संयुक्त सचिव, खाद्य, सार्वजनिक वितरण एवं

2. रिक्त पदों पर चयन हेतु माप दण्ड, नियम एवं शर्तें, वेतन एवं अन्य भत्ते,

आवेदन—पत्र का प्रारूप सहित अन्य जानकारी विभागीय **वेबसाईट** =>

उपभोक्ता मामले विभाग, प्रोजेक्ट भवन सचिवालय, धुर्वा, राँची, झारखण्ड–834004

4. आवेदन समर्पित करने की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 23.07.2021 अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक है। निर्धारित समय के पश्चात् प्राप्त आवेदन पर कोई विचार नहीं किया

(थॉमस डुगडुग), सरकार के संयुक्त संचिव।

PR 248434 (Food Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs) 21-22 (D)

## AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE MARKETING COMMITTEE

SHO

(Market Of National Importance) New Office Complex, NFM-Ph.-II, Sarai Pipal Thalla, Azadpur, Delhi-33

**NOTICE OF E-TENDERING** Item rate e-tenders are invited for the under mentioned works on behalf of Secretary, Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee, Azadpur and opened online in the office of Secretary, APMC, Azadpur

S.No.	Tender ID	Name of Work	Estimated Cost/ Earnest money (In Rupees)	Last Date/ Time of Receipt of Tenders
1.	2021_DAMB_204601_1	INSTALLATION OF TEMPORARY SHEDS ON HIRE BASIS AT TIKARI KHAMPUR	77000/-	28/06/2021 upto 1300Hrs.

Date of release of tender through e-procurement solution: 19/06/2021 Further details can be seen at website <a href="https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in">https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in</a>

> **Executive Engineer** APMC, AZADPUR

> > M ND-NDE

**DIP/Shabdarth/0116/21-22** 

## Regd. DL(ND)-11/6110/2006-07-08 • RNI No. UPENG/2012/49940 • ISSN 0971 - 751X • Vol. 11 • No. 149

physical form.

Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above



DIPK- 3269/21

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# Road Division, Dumka, Pin-814101

**Government of Jammu & Kashmir** 

<u>office of the executive engineer anantnag</u> PWD(R&B) division kulgam NOTICE INVITING TENDERS TWO COVER SYSTEM NIT No. 14/2021-22/RnB/Kuli/e-tendering/1633-53 dated 19-06-2021 xecutive Engineer PW(R&B)Division Khanabal on behalf of Lt. Governor of J&K, invites percentage rate bids in electro inductive system for the following works including their maintenance for five years from the eligible and approved contract gistered with J&K UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State Governments.

	The Bidding documents Consisti Q), Set of terms and conditions of jktenders gov in as per schedule of	of contract	and othe							
		Tendere	d Cost inclu (Rs in Lacs.)				tion work		of online )	Ď
S. No.	Name of Work with Package No. and Name of Division	Construction Part	Maintenance Part	Total cost of work	Cost of document (Rs in lacs.)	Earnest Money (Bid Security) (Rs in lacs.)	Time of comple For Construction	Tender Call	Time and Date opening of tenders (Technical Bid	Class of Contrai
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

Upgradation of Kadder Noonmia yaripora road including allied links (Agg: length 3.80 Kms under length 3.80 Kms under NABARD RIDF-XXVI M.H.Account NABARD RIDFXXVI

nders gov in as per below schedule:

Security Decl. Accorded Vide Order No CE(R&B) K-317 of 2020-21 Dated 13.02.2021 and issued vide endorsement No: CE/RNB/HD/28420-23 dated 13-02-2021 Accorded Vide Order No. CE(R&B) K-TS/129 of 2021-22, Dated 09.06.2021 = Accorded = Available

19/06/2021 Date of Issue of Tender Notice Period of downloading of bidding documents 23/06/2021 at 11.00 AM in the Office of the Superintending Engined (R&B) Circle Ang/Kulg H.Q Khanabal Date, Time and Place of Pre Bid meeting Bid submission Start Date 24/06/2021 from 10.00 AM.

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website

Date & time of opening of Bids (Online) 10/07/2021 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Superintending Engine (R&B) Circle Ang/Kulg, H.Q Khanabal Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online) To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Receipt/Challan in favour of Executive Engine

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Receipt/Challan in favour of Executive Enginee R&B Division Kulgam (Tender Inviting Authority) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid am Bid Submission End date).

All Bidders have to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money as per the circular of Department (Bid Security Declaration Form is as per Annexure 'A' below)

The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of Contract as Performance Security in the CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Superintending Engineer(R&B) Circle Anantnag/Kulgam HO Khanabal (Tender Receiving Authority) within 03 Days before fixation of contract and shall be released after the DLP is over Successfully. Riddlers can resubmit/Withdraw the bids as specified.

The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidder automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids of Responsive Bidders shall be opened online in the Office of Superintending Engineer (R&B) Circle Anantnag/Kulgam HQ Khanabad \_The date for same shall be proceed to the control of the control

intimated separately.
The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.
The Performance Security shall be forfeited If:

a) Any bidder/tendere withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modification in the terms and conditions of the bid.
b) Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required Performance Security within specified time period before signing

contract agreement.
c) In case contractor fails to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
Instruction to Bidders regarding E-tendering process.
1 Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" or website <u>www.iktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.</u> 8.2 To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act

Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents mentioned in NIT and SBD with technical bid. - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option. Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.

The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.

Scanned copy of Bid Security Declaration Form in favour of Superintending Engineer (R&B) Circle Anantnag/Kulgam HQ Khanabal and Cost of Tender document in the shape of Treasury Receipt/Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Kulgam (Tender Inviting Authority) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) must be uploaded with the Technical bid documents for the work. After opening of financial bids, the lowest bidder shall submit the Performance Secutify in the form of CDR/BG/FDR within 03 Days in the Office of the Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Anantnag/Kulgam HQ Khanabal. Failure to do so shall render the first lowest successful bidder non-responsive.

Bidders may contact Office of the Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Anantnag/Kulgam HQ Khanabal or Concerned Executive Engineer for any guidance for getting DSC or any other relevant details in respect of e-tendering process.

Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.

Proceedings of the superintending for the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bills as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

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Now I do not have any relation of association with this company. PUBLIC NOTICE Usha Arora W/o Late Sh. R S Arora

> U & K Law Associates Advocate Delhi High Court



temple to reopen today

The Sreekrishna temple in Guruvayur, Kerala, which has been closed for two months due to the COVID-19 lockdown, will be reopened for devotees on Thursday. Only 15 persons will be allowed inside the temple at a time. A maximum of 600 devotees can have darshan on a day. Wedding ceremonies and offerings will

## File affidavit in money heist case: HC tells ED

The Kerala High Court on

## Telangana Maoist leader

of Haribushan

## of staff in ITDA case

BUTTAIGUDEM The West Godavari district police in Andhra Pradesh, which arrested five persons Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), are probing the role of the staff in the case. The police have registered a sexual harassment case.

# HC suspends G.O. on hospital room rent

Order allowed private hospitals in Kerala to fix rent, court puts it in on hold

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Slamming the State government, a Division Bench of the Kerala High Court on Wednesday suspended for a week a new government order (G.O.) allowing private hospitals to fix the room rent for COVID-19 patients.

The Bench comprising Justice Devan Ramachandran and Justice Kauser Edappagath observed that what had now been done by the government was to allow the private hospitals to fix any rate for the rooms and suites and that the order took away "the laudatory objectives of its first order" issued on May 10.

It was clear from the earlier order that the rates fixed for the beds included all corollary charges like nursing, boarding, doctor's fee, etc., the court said. By allowing private hospitals to fix any rate for their rooms and suites, "they have become empowered to go back to the earlier situation in charges", albeit with a condition that such rates be displayed

## Hospitals' plea

The court passed the order on a petition filed by the Kerala Private Hospitals Association seeking to review an ear-



Stepping in: A health worker conducting a COVID-19 test in Palakkad, Kerala. • MUSTAFAH K.K.

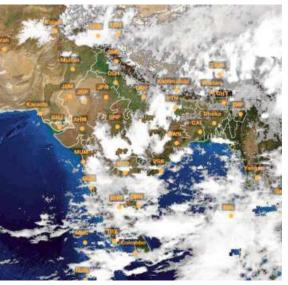
lier High Court directive to the State government to fix COVID-19 treatment charges in private hospitals. The earlier directive had come on a petition complaining that private hospitals were overcharging patients for CO-VID-19 treatment.

The Bench also noted that there were some issues with respect to the treatment of pre-existing comorbidities. Counsel for the hospitals' association submitted that the order did not offer a clear meaning on room rents. If a COVID-19 patient had pre-existing co-morbidities during hospitalisation, treatment for the same should be excluded from the charges fixed by the government.

## Govt. response

The government pleader submitted that all the issues involved would be properly considered. The government counsel sought to respond appropriately to the court's observations in a week.

The court, in the meanwhile, ordered that the operation of the new order be suspended till the next date of hearing. The court posted the hearing on the review petition for June 30.



Forecast for Thursday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, east Madhya Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Punjab, Rajasthan, Delhi, Sikkim, Bihar, Jharkhand, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	1	35.0	26.0	Kozhikode		32.2	24.9
Ahmedabad	29	34.6	26.3	Kurnool		35.8	28.2
Aizawl	2	28.3	23.2	Lucknow		35.6	28.3
Allahabad		33.1	28.0	Madurai	6	38.4	25.5
Bengaluru		30.5	21.2	Mangaluru	1	31.0	23.8
Bhopal	1.6	34.0	24.6	Mumbai	6	32.9	27.2
Bhubaneswar	7.6	27.6	22.9	Mysuru		30.8	21.6
Chandigarh		40.5	28.1	New Delhi		40.5	28.0
Chennai		38.3	28.2	Patna		35.0	25.6
Coimbatore		33.6	24.1	Port Blair	28	27.9	23.6
Dehradun		34.7	24.6	Puducherry		34.1	24.5
Gangtok	76	21.8	18.4	Pune		31.4	21.8
Goa	5	31.4	26.2	Raipur	. 14.6	27.6	24.2
Guwahati	0.7	35.1	27.4	Ranchi	31	29.6	22.1
Hubballi		28.0	22.0	Shillong	0.1	24.7	18.5
Hyderabad		30.6	26.0	Shimla		29.8	21.0
Imphal	23	31.4	21.5	Srinagar		30.9	13.3
Jaipur		40.0	29.4	Thiruvananthapuram	12	32.0	24.7
Kochi	2	31.4	25.2	Tiruchi	0.1	38.5	26.4
Kohima	6	26.6	18.6	Vijayawada		35.8	28.4
Kolkata	2	33.7	26.3	Visakhapatnam	92	31.4	27.2

### (Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius) Pollutants in the air you are breathing

# **SO**<sub>2</sub> **NO**<sub>2</sub> **CO PM2.5 PM10 CODE** ...5 ... 29 ...178 .133 .... Visakhapatnam ..8 .57 30 ....78

# The Hindu Kerala Bureau chief Anil Radhakrishnan passes away

He was known for his passion for work, domain knowledge

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

S. Anil Radhakrishnan, 54, Chief of Bureau, Kerala, The Hindu, passed away at his residence here Wednesday.

Anil's sudden passing came as a shock for his family, colleagues, neighbours and friends. He was COVIDnegative and overtly healthy. He was till late an ardent shuttle player. A doctor later certified heart attack as the cause of death.

Anil joined *The Hindu* in 1996 after a five-year stint in the Press Trust of India in Mumbai. He acquired his master's degree in journalism from the Department of Iournalism, University of Kerala, in 1992. He had passed the course as a class topper. Anil covered tourism, public transport, air-



S. Anil Radhakrishnan

line industry, ports, road, Railways and allied infrastructure for *The Hindu* for more than 24 years. Of late, he branched to financial iournalism.

Anil was known in The Hindu for his passion for work. Scarcely a news day passed without one of Anil's reports on The Hindu's Kerapages. He doggedly tracked his beat and was abreast of the latest develop-

ments. His vast sources in the areas he covered, high domain knowledge and an infallible work ethic kept Anil on the top of his expansive beat.

Recently, Anil had authored several breaking and nuanced articles on public finance and the Centre-State fiscal relationship.

Leaders cutting across political lines expressed their condolences to the bereaved family. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan described Anil as a value-based journalist. Anil's unexpected parting was a loss to society and journalism, he said.

Anil is survived by his mother Sathi Devi, wife S.S. Sindhu (teacher, Government Higher Secondary School for Girls, Cotton Hill) and son S.A. Narayanan (Reliance Petroleum, Gujarat).

# We will hold exams for Classes 11 & 12, says A.P.

No reliable alternative, it tells SC

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Andhra Pradesh government on Wednesday confirmed in the Supreme Court that it will go ahead and hold exams for Classes 11 and 12 students as there is no "reliable alternative".

The State said it was "conscious of the difficult situation, but conduct of examination shall be in the best interests of the students and shall be conducted safely".

The Supreme Court had given the State 24 hours to take a call on whether or not it would conduct the State Board exams amid the pandemic.

"Even if there is one student fatality, the State will be held responsible," Justices A.M. Khanwilkar and Di-Maheshwari had warned the State government on Tuesday.

affidavit filed through advocate Mahfooz A. Nazki on Wednesday, said COVID-19 cases had seen a sharp decline from 19,981 on May 22 to 4,169 on June 22. The State had decided to go ahead with the exams after discussions with experts.

However, the State, in its

It said it would tentatively conduct the exams in the last week of July. The timetable would be intimated to parents and students 15 days in advance.

The State said over 5.19 lakh students were expected to take the Class 12 exams and 5.12 lakh children would attend the Class 11 exams.

It said there was no "reliable alternative" to assess the of performance

The court has scheduled a hearing on June 24.

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI) **50**<sub>2</sub>: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues

NO2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

# Now, Arunachal students' body files complaint against BRO

The union gives officers 10 days to apologise for map 'fiasco'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Singh's programme on June

inauguration of 12 road pro-



Rajnath Singh at the e-launch of roads built by the BRO. FILE PHOTO

passed off the place as Bilgarh in Assam.

Probe demanded

"We have demanded an inquiry into what compelled BRO to hide the name of Kimin and Arunachal Pradesh during the event of national importance jects by Mr. Singh, allegedly that the Defence Minister at-

Twitter storm to save Unani medicine

tended," the union's president Hawa Bagang said.

The union has also set a 10day deadline for the BRO to apologise to the people of the State for the "grave error, deliberate or otherwise".

The union said its members would gherao the camps of the General Reserve Engineer Force across the State if the BRO fails to apologise. They may also be asked to leave the State, it added. Union general secretary Tobom Dai said the BRO "sabotaged" the territorial integrity of Arunachal Pradesh that has had boundary disputes with Assam. These disputes are in court. "The BRO's act was intended to create dispute and also to disrupt the federal set up of the country," he said.

# **DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE** DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT

4TH FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-110006 Visit us at: http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in

manufacturers, collection centres, dealers, refurbishers, bulk consumers, dismantlers, bulk consumers and recyclers. Major responsibilities of each of these stakeholders are listed as under. For more details, these

/pdf/EWMRulespdffdab6f4b3b8088efb1c981b6ba97705f.pdf

Apply for authorisation in Form 1 (a) to Maintain record of waste generation in Form-2 and file annual returns in Form-3, to **DPCC** on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June following the financial year to which that

**PRODUCERS** 

publications, advertisements, posters, or by any other means of communication and product user documentation accompanying the equipment.

e-waste handled and make such records available for scrutiny by the CPCB and **DPCC** and file annual returns in Form-3 to CPCB.

**COLLECTION CENTRES** Ensure that the facilities are in

accordance with the standards or guidelines issued by CPCB time to time and store the E-waste collected by them in a secured manner till it is sent to authorised dismantler or recycler as the case may be.

scrutiny by the CPCB and DPCC.

**DEALERS** 

the consumer a box, bin or a demarcated

# PUBLIC NOTICE

collected to collection centre or dismantler or recycler as designated by producer. Ensure that no damage is caused to the environment during storage and transportation of E-waste to authorised dismantlers or recyclers.

**REFURBISHERS** 

Apply for authorization by submitting

an online application in Form-1 (a). Shall ensure compliance with the guidelines issued by CPCB available at https://www.dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in//upload s/pdf/E-Waste-guidelines-2016pdf-8c88009919a1a1148a66ff83a2257061.pdf.

Maintain record of waste generation in

File annual returns in Form-3 to DPCC on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June following the financial year to which that return

**BULK CONSUMERS** 

Shall ensure that E-waste generated by them is channelised through collection centre or dealer of authorised producer or dismantler or recycler or through the designated take back service provider of the producer to authorised dismantler or recycler. Maintain records of e-waste generated

by them in Form-2 and make such records

available for scrutiny by **DPCC**. File annual returns in



Form-2 and make such records available for scrutiny by the CPCB and DPCC.

File annual returns in Form-3 to **DPCC** on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June following the financial year to which that return

## **DISMANTLER AND RECYCLERS**

Obtain authorization by submitting online application in Form-4.

Maintain record of waste generation in Form-2 and make such records available for scrutiny by the CPCB and DPCC.

Form-3, to DPCC on or before the 30th day of June following the financial year to which

and notified guidelines will attract penal action as per the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Please visit website of Delhi Pollution Control Committee (http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in) for

**Member Secretary** 



also be resumed.

Wednesday asked the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to file an affidavit in response to a plea for a probe by the agency into the Kodakara black money heist case. Justice Ashok Menon passed the directive on a petition filed by Salim Madavur, president, Lok Tantrik Yuva Janata Dal.

# dies after battling COVID

BHADRADRI-KOTHAGUDEM The CPI (Maoist) Telangana State committee secretary Haribushan alias Yapa Naravana, 50, died of a heart attack after battling COVID-19 for several days in Chhattisgarh on Monday, police said. Officials said they had received reliable information about the death

# Police investigate role

on the charges of exploiting tribal girls by promising jobs in the K.R. Puram Integrated

# NORTH & EAST

The All Arunachal Pradesh Students' Union has lodged a first information report against the officers of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) for passing off the State's Kimin as a town of Assam during Defence Minister Rajnath

The FIR naming BRO Chief Engineer Pramod Kumar and other officers of the organisation based at Kimin was lodged at the Itanagar police

station on June 22. Kimin, about 75 km from Itanagar, is in Papum Pare district of Arunachal Pradesh. But the BRO had during the

AMU's Tibbia College seeks 'just treatment' for the system

ANUJ KUMAR GHAZIABAD Demanding just treatment for Unani system of medicine in the newly formed National Commission for Indian System of Medicine, a Twitter storm is being organised on Thursday by All India Unani Conference and Aligarh Muslim Universi-

ty's A.K. Tibbia College. "Ayurveda and Unani systems of medicine are like brothers. But in the NCSIM Act, 2020, the Unani system is being meted out with stepmotherly treatment, said Dr. Khalid Siddiqui, former director-general, Central Council for Research of Unani Medicine (CCRUM).

Urging for amendment in the Act, Dr. Siddiqui said, "Unani System that has considerable presence in the country

and abroad has been clubbed with regional systems of Siddha and Sowa Rigpa in the Commission." Making an appeal for an in-

dependent board, fair distribution of resources and appropriate representation in the Commission, Dr. Siddiqui said they would approach the members of the Parliamentary Committee. He underlined the Unani system, which has around 60 colleges, 100 hospitals, and around 1,500 dispensaries across all States, has been subsumed with Siddha and Sowa Rigpa systems that have only a regional presence with a few colleges/

dispensaries. Raising concerns of the practitioners and students of the Unani system, earlier this month, a seminar was organ-

ised in AMU's Tibbia College which has been the nucleus of research and education of Unani medicine in the country.

"We hope that the PM's credo of 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas' will be translated into action by giving Unani system its due," said Prof. F.S. Sheerani, dean of the faculty of Unani "The Ministry of AYUSH has

permitted Ayurvedic post graduates of surgery to perform surgical procedures totally ignoring the right of Unani post graduates in surgery with similar course contents and training," said Dr. Mohammed Mohsin, associate professor and convenor of the seminar. He said Unani doctors have contributed a lot in prevailing pandemic and a number of doctors lost their lives.

E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 came into force w.e.f 1st October 2016. These Rules mandates various responsibilities on

stakeholders may visit https://www.dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in/uploads

for compliance.

**MANUFACTURERS** Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC).

return relates.

Create awareness through media,

Maintain records in Form-2 of the

Maintain record of waste generation in Form-2 and make such records available for

Shall collect the E-waste by providing

area to deposit E-waste, or through take back system and send the E-waste so

that return relates. Any violation of the provisions of the Rules

more details.

# Friends in need

An amalgam of disparate elements will not be a viable national alternative to the BJP

Talk of any political realignment is unseasonal, considering the fact that the next general election is due only in 2024 and the BJP is entrenched in the government. A gathering of political leaders, activists and scholars convened by Trinamool Congress leader Yashwant Sinha on Tuesday, however, was preceded by a lot of speculation about the emergence of a 'third' front, opposed to the BJP and sidelining the Congress. The Rashtra Manch is not intended to be a third front according to its organisers, but that does not mean the end of an exploratory politics ahead of 2024. In fact, most parties have reasons to think and act towards a new alternative to the BJP. For one, serial governance failures and missteps have made the current moment the most vulnerable for the BJP since 2014. The Congress does challenge the BJP at an ideational level, but the electoral victories over it in recent months were by regional parties such as the TMC, the DMK and the Left. While Rahul Gandhi has a principled position against the BJP, his vacillating role within the party and reluctance to play the power politics make the Congress an uninspiring leader for other anti-BJP parties. The role being played by Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar makes the current attempt for a new platform vigorous. He has the dexterity, heft and the network to lead it.

a debating society. At 80, age is not on Mr. Pawar's side. Without an active role for the Congress, no political formation can be viable against the BJP. That role, and the terms of engagement between the Congress and other smaller parties remain open questions. Even among the parties that participated in the meeting – SP, NCP, AAP, CPI(M), CPI, National Conference, Trinamool Congress enthusiasm is muted, though they sent representatives. Mr. Pawar himself is conscious of the pitfalls. Several of these parties are adversaries of one another in States. All non-BJP parties are not opening up to the idea, at least for now. The TRS, YSRCP and BJD, in power in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, respectively, have a guarded approach towards national politics. All these factors make the emergence of a robust opposition to the BJP onerous. Politics is often shaped by circumstances. The BJP's unchallenged power in the last seven years has built tensions that need to be resolved through democratic processes. The recent Assembly election outcomes were a reminder that parties staunchly opposed to the BJP remain popular in States. Harnessing a national politics from such disparate trends is a challenge before the opponents of the BJP.

That said, there is not an easy path for this nascent

platform, assuming that it has ambitions beyond being

# Engage Iran

Blocking of Iran-linked websites does little for efforts to revive n-deal and reverse sanctions

The U.S.'s decision to block dozens of Iran-linked websites at a time when both countries are trying to revive the nuclear deal is unnecessary cation. The U.S. has accused the sites, including Iran's state-owned Press TV, of spreading disinformation. In the past, the U.S. had cracked down on Chinese and Iranian media over similar allegations. The move comes days after Iran elected Ebrahim Raisi, a hardline cleric, as President. The election of Mr. Raisi, who has been sanctioned by the U.S. for his alleged role in the execution of political prisoners and other rights violations, has already escalated tensions between the two countries. Iran's sharp response to the move on the websites, has been that the U.S. was trying to "muzzle free speech". Even if one ignores Iran's rhetoric, the U.S.'s move hardly serves its declared purpose of fighting disinformation. When America seized the website of the semi-official Iranian news agency, Fars, in 2018, it switched to an Iranian domain and was back online. The U.S. should not act like despotic regimes that take knee-jerk actions towards media platforms with critical coverage. The way to fight disinformation campaigns is to promote information and strengthen independent journalism. Besides aiding the Iranian narrative that America remains hostile, the U.S. decision could also create hitches in the diplomatic process under way.

The Biden administration had hoped for reaching an agreement with Tehran on reviving the nuclear deal before the June 18 Iran presidential election. After multiple rounds of indirect talks in Vienna, along with other world powers, a final agreement has not been reached, but all parties have expressed faith in talks. The Biden administration had shown a willingness to reverse Donald Trump's maximum pressure policy and revive the deal that would cut off Iran's path towards the bomb in return for lifting sanctions. Iran, embattled by sanctions, economic woes and protests, has responded positively to the U.S.'s overtures. But there have been bottlenecks. One, when the Trump administration pulled the U.S. out of the nuclear deal and reimposed sanctions, Iran started rebuilding its nuclear programme with higher-level fuel enrichment and production of centrifuges. Now, the U.S. wants Iran to return to the terms of the original agreement, while the Iranians want the sanctions lifted first. Two, the Biden administration also wants to discuss Iran's ballistic missile programme and its regional activities. Mr. Raisi has rejected such demands outright. Known for his hardline domestic and foreign policy views, he would take over the presidency in early August. Mr. Biden's best chance to revive the nuclear deal is to do it before then. Both sides should focus on the diplomatic path, aimed at achieving a pragmatic agreement first that addresses the most critical issues – Iran's expanding nuclear programme and America's sprawling sanctions regime.

# The Kashmir outreach and the Afghan storm

The Government's J&K moves may be part of a more complex regional game involving India's security interests



SUHASINI HAIDAR

wo years after its dramatic decision to reorganise Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), the Government appears to be rethinking some of the objectives it announced then as Prime Minister Narendra Modi engages the erstwhile State's former leadership to discuss the future of the political process there. Mr. Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah had spoken of three specific objectives in the move to amend Article 370 on August 5, 2019, apart from ending terrorism and violence in J&K: flooding the region with development initiatives and investment from other parts of the country; reclaiming those parts of the territory now occupied by Pakistan and China (Pakistan Occupied Kashmir, or PoK, and Aksai Chin), and ending the rule of political "dynasties" in J&K - that they claimed had held the progress of the State hostage - in favour of a "Naya Kashmir" polity. Above all, the Government underlined, as External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar undertook a series of visits abroad to explain its nuances, the decision was purely an "internal" one, and did not affect India's ties with any other country.

## Objectives and reality

While two years may not be long enough to truly judge the success of its intentions, particularly given the impact of the novel coronavirus pandemic, it is certainly fair to say the Government has failed to make headway with most of those

objectives. Incidents of terrorism and violence have no doubt decreased since 2019, but that has come at the cost of massive privations to the people in the name of security. More than 5,000 people were arrested, the longest Internet shutdown in any democracy was instituted for 213 days, and the deployment of troops still remains at peacetime highs. The plight of the ordinary Kashmiri, battling daily intimidations from security forces, the closure of schools and online education for their children, and diminishing sources of income. can only be imagined. Attempts to convince investors that this is a lasting peace have floundered thus far, and while the Government claims it has more than 400 memoranda of understanding from businesses nationwide promising to invest in the Union Territory, this can only be tested once the money actually comes in, given the state of the national economy, even prior to the pandemic.

## **Border situation**

Mr. Shah's claim in Parliament that his government was willing to "sacrifice lives" to ensure the return of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir and Aksai Chin, appears a much more difficult proposition in the face of the Chinese aggression at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) since April 2020. Chinese actions, and the failure of military and diplomatic talks to ensure the restoration of status quo ante have been coupled with the growing threat perception, articulated by the Indian Army Chief, that any future conflict at the LAC would need to account for a two-front "situation" with Pakistan at the Line of Control as well, and vice versa. Even the United States is unlikely to countenance any military manoeuvre in-

theatre, and the U.S.'s pullout and the increasing strength of the Taliban will add to the risk calculus in Delhi against such actions.

Finally, the outreach to 14 leaders from J&K, many of whom were arrested for months, indicates that the Government's plan for a "Naya Kashmir" polity is not drastically different from the previous polity - that the Home Minister referred to derisively as the "Gupkar Gang" despite intervening attempts at building a new party (Apni Party), sidelining the main parties during consultations and even promoting 'District Development Councillors" as the new Kashmiri leadership during meetings with foreign diplomats.

## Hardly an 'internal' issue

The Government's repeated assertion that its August 5 decision on J&K was an "internal one" has also been put to a rigorous test. Despite considerable exertions by the Ministry of External Affairs and its missions worldwide, J&K has now been discussed in more capitals, including the U.S. Congress, Parliaments in the United Kingdom, the European Union (EU) and the Nordic countries, than ever before, while several delegations of EU parliamentarians, Ambassahave been escorted to the valley to elicit their approval for the situation there. It is ironic that countries which were openly supportive of the Modi government's military action in PoK in 2016 after the Uri attack, and of the Balakot strikes by the Indian Air Force in Pakistan after the Pulwama attack in 2019, have even so, chosen to be so critical of a political and internal move. In addition, the J&K dispute has been discussed at least three times at the UN Security Council, which had not touched the issue since 1971.

## **Dialogue with Pakistan**

What is more galling is the notion that the decision to engage the previous leadership, to discuss the restart of a political process and the reversal of the August 5 decision to downgrade the State to a Union Territory, comes not from domestic considerations alone. In the past few months, it has been made clear that a backchannel dialogue between India and Pakistan is discussing assurances on I&K that would enable a broader bilateral dialogue. Pakistan too has climbed down considerably from its previous demands of plebiscite and UN resolutions, to Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's more recent statements that he would be willing to talk if there was a reversal in some of the August 5 steps, or if the Modi government proffers a "roadmap" on J&K. Even Pakistan's insistence on the restoration of Article 370 was a turnaround from the days when it rejected the Article's validity. Both the downturn in Pakistan-backed violence in Iammu-Kashmir as well the softening of rhetoric suggest a flexibility borne out of international pressure as well as the sustained threat of a (Pakistan)

tion Task Force.

Such compromises by hawkish establishments in Delhi and Islamabad (and Rawalpindi) do not come from an internal rethink by themselves, and it would seem obvious that external prompting from the U.S., keen to complete its Afghanistan pullout and its negotiations with the Taliban, as well as nudges from Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, of the kind publicly referred to by the UAE envoy as "mediation", have been at work as well. The recent disclosure by the Oatari special envoy that Indian officials have engaged the Taliban leadership in Doha is also part of that matrix. The Government's decision to shut down operations at two of its Afghanistan consulates, in Jalalabad and Herat, which was earlier described as a temporary move due to the novel coronavirus pandemic, is clearly linked to safety concerns in the phase after the U.S. pullout.

## The U.S. factor

In the broader geopolitical context, as the drumbeats to a U.S.-China confrontation grow louder. India's global strategies will be further put to test. The U.S.'s expectations of cooperation from India to its East, on China and the Indo-Pacific, have clearly not been commensurate with New Delhi's expectations that America would reduce India's threats to its west, from Afghanistan and Pakistan. Instead, it would seem, the Government's attempts to sever the Gordian knot in Jammu and Kashmir with its moves two years ago, are being drawn into a more complex game of regional dominoes, where India's security interests are increasingly in play.

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# The gender technology gap has to end

There needs to be a feminist approach to technology to solve the social impacts of the South Asian COVID-19 crisis



MOHAMMAD NACIRI & ATSUKO OKUDA

s a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has swept South Asia in recent months, existing inequalities have come to light. One aspect stands er been so crucial to ensuring public health and safety.

Around the world, information and access to health care have largely moved online, and those left behind face grave disadvantages.

## Limited or no access

According to Global System for Mobile Communications (GSMA) estimates, over 390 million women in low- and middle-income countries do not have Internet access. South Asia has more than half of these women with only 65% owning a mobile phone.

In India, only 14.9% of women were reported to be using the Internet. This divide is deepened by earlier mandates to register online to get a vaccination appointment. Recent local data revealed that nearly 17% more men than women have been vaccinated. While improving awareness of how to access vaccination and help are crucial to protecting women, the mindset around digital technology

and device ownership must also

For example, when families share a digital device, it is more likely that the father or sons will be allowed to use it exclusively. In part, this is due to deeply held cultural beliefs: it is often believed that women's access to technology will motivate them to challenge patriarchal societies. There is also a belief that women need to be protected, and that online content can be dangerous for women/expose them to risks. As a conse- ing companies to sign up and quence girls and women who ask for phones face suspicion and

These gaps prevent women and LGBTQIA+ people from accessing critical services, In India, Bangladesh and Pakistan, for example, fewer women than men received the necessary information to survive COVID-19. Vaccine registration usually requires a smartphone or laptop. Men and boys are thus more likely to get timely information and register than women and girls.

The concept of feminism goes beyond the rights of women. It is about a way of life. In simple terms, it means being inclusive, democratic, transparent, egalitarian, and offering opportunities for all. We can call it equality through innovation.

Feminist technology (sometimes called "femtech") is an approach to technology and innovation that is inclusive, informed and responsive to the entire community with all its diversity.



## Steps to an equitable future

At UN Women, we are encouragee to principles that wi a more equitable future for all. As part of the Generation Equality Forum (https://bit.ly/35MSxNa), the goal is to double the number of women and girls working in technology and innovation. By 2026, the aim is to reduce the gender digital divide and ensure universal digital literacy, while investing in feminist technology and innovation to support women's leadership as innovators

Through digital empowerment programmes and partnerships such as EQUALS (https:// bit.ly/2SQ78oj) and International Girls in ICT Day celebration (https://bit.ly/2SQ6WW7) across the region led by UN Women and the International Telecommunication Union, we hope that more girls will choose STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) as their academic focus, enter digital technology careers, and aspire to be the next leaders in digital technology.

What would the world look like

if technology were truly inclusive and reflected our society's needs? How would the world be different if feminist technology were embraced?

# Hardly a neutral world

What we see today is that most technologies that are available to the layperson are created by men, for men, and do not necessarily meet everyone's requirements. The supposedly neutral world of technology is full of examples of this: from video games to virtual dimensions of "handheld" smartphones, technology is not always made with everyone in mind.

Policy cannot solve this on its own, but the private sector can. Companies should not look at gender-equal technology solely from an altruistic perspective, but from a pragmatic one.

According to GSMA, closing the gender gap in mobile Internet usage in low- and middle-income countries would increase GDP by U.S.\$700 billion over the next five years. Women and girls are the largest consumer groups left out of technology and could be major profit drivers.

In the App Store, there are about two million apps, most of which cater to young men. Why not design apps geared specifically towards mothers or apps for women to access telemedicine consultation? Or digital networks to connect women to informal job opportunities so they can still earn while balancing caring for their fa-

media policies that a great

anti-colonialist was deemed

not worthy of a mention on

■ As a reader of a number of

find it jarring that the Indian

media has forgotten Kenneth

Kaunda, Zambia's founding

President, who played a key

nationalism. Controversy can

role in supporting African

be found in his rule, but by

and large, he was an icon in

African statesmen, Kenneth

Africa. If one can think of

dailies for over 40 years, I

African statesman and

his passing.

SANJAY REDDY,

milies? Other than apps, built-in features on mobile phones such as an emergency button connecting women to law enforcement if they face unwanted street harassment should also be considered.

Women and girls do not have the same access to these technologies as men and boys, nor are they available at the same price. That is not acceptable.

There is no need to reinvent the wheel. In the 1950s, dishwashers and washing machines were promoted as a method of emancipating women. Household good ducers, for example, target most of their advertising at women because they often control the household budget. Digital technology could be approached similarly.

We now have the opportunity to shape our future in a way that is more equal, diverse, and sustainable in the world of technology in the aftermath of the medical and socioeconomic devastation in the

Now is the time to act. The right thing to do is also the smart thing to do. Bringing an end to the gender technology gap will save lives and make livelihoods more secure. As a result, the next pandemic, once it arrives, may not be nearly as destructive. It can only lead to a better community and a better world for us all.

Mohammad Naciri is Regional Head of UN Women Asia and the Pacific Atsuko Okuda is Regional Director of the International Telecommunication Union

Kaunda and Julius Nyerere

would feature in the list.

What is the legacy of Mr.

Kaunda, a humanist who was

noted for his spotless white

and even crying in public?

times, but he was able to

mark in terms of

ensure a unified Zambia for

much of his rule. He left his

handkerchiefs, hymn singing

He may have been ruthless at

Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

# Political alternative?

We do not need to read too much into the somewhat lukewarm response of many Opposition parties to the Rashtra Manch meeting to explore the possibility of forging broad Opposition unity to take on the BJP (Page 1, June 23). Even though some parties skipped the meeting and some others sent their second rung leaders, they all have a stake in putting up a united political front against the ruling party. And, they seem to realise it. The Opposition parties should be sensible of the fact that they risk losing their relevance by splitting the secular and social justice vote. But the Opposition parties have a daunting task at hand; they have to convince the people

that they will provide a

better government. The failure of the Modi government to carry through its promises of bringing about Vikas and 'Achhe din aane waale hain', and its inept and callous handling of the COVID-19 pandemic have chipped away at the popularity of the top G. DAVID MILTON,

■ It is not surprising that the grand meeting turned out to be damp squib. There are inherent reasons for this. Though an anti-Modi glue has brought the anti-BJP parties together, just as in the past with such political experiments, it is egoistic clashes by the leaders of regional outfits that come in the way of projecting solutions to the wide array of pressing contemporary issues. Until this factor is sorted out, such experiments are destined to fail miserably even as the image of the Narendra Modi-led government has taken a hit. IAYASHREE THAMPI. Thiruvananthapuram

## Bank deposit returns With bank deposit interest

rates not covering even the inflation rate, this is eroding the savings of senior citizens and others who do not have any fixed income by way of governmental pension support. Gone are the days when such strata made both ends meet from interest income. The rosy pictures of increased deposits in the banking system are linked to five banks which enjoy the privilege of institutional deposits, mostly from government departments.

Though it is a global challenge for all economies to make a semblance in interest rates on deposits and advance to spur industrial growth and employment, the scales are tilted more in favour of borrowers than depositors. The recovery of NPAs has to be streamlined. BRIJ BHUSHAN GOYAL, Ludhiana, Punjab

## **Kenneth Kaunda**

It is a shock that many media outlets in India did not have even a short note, let alone a detailed obituary, on the demise of Kenneth Kaunda, the first President of independent Zambia. Mr. Kaunda was a close friend of India and took great inspiration from India's freedom struggle to fight for his country's freedom from Britain. It is a sign of the drift in

infrastructure and enabling universal health and education. Finally, he was also a good friend of India. G. SUBRAMANIAM.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS: An Editorial page article titled "The state of India's poor must be

acknowledged" (June 22, 2021), citing the Suresh Tendulkar Committee report, erroneously said that the report calculated the poor at 25.7% of the population. It should have been 25.7% of the rural population. The all-India statistic is 21.9%.

The Readers' Editor's office can be contacted by Telephone: +91-44-28418297/28576300;

THE HINDU DELHI THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021

# The 'Union government' has a unifying effect | A recovery path for airlines

The term 'Centre' is absent in the Constitution as the Constituent Assembly did not want to centralise power



MUKUND P. UNNY

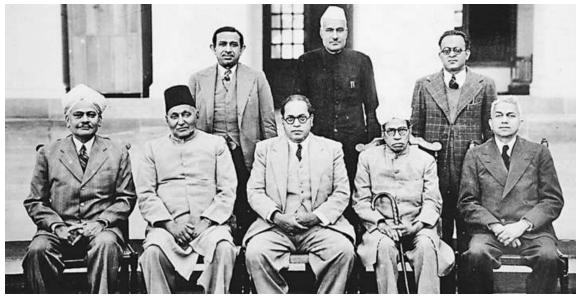
The Tamil Nadu government's decision to shun the usage of the term 'Central government' in its official communications and replace it with 'Union government' is a major step towards regaining the consciousness of our Constitution. Seventy-one years since we adopted the Constitution, it is time we regained the original intent of our founding fathers beautifully etched in the parchment as Article 1: "India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States". If a student of Indian polity attempts to trace the origin of the term 'Central government', the Constitution will disappoint him, for the Constituent Assembly did not use the term 'Centre' or 'Central government' in all of its 395 Articles in 22 Parts and eight Schedules in the original Constitution. What we have are the 'Union' and the 'States' with the executive powers of the Union wielded by the President acting on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister. Then, why did the courts, the media and even the States refer to the Union government as the 'Centre'?

Even though we have no reference to the 'Central government' in the Constitution, the General Clauses Act, 1897 gives a definition for it. The 'Central government' for all practical purposes is the President after the commencement of the Constitution. Therefore, the real question is whether such definition for 'Central government' is constitutional as the Constitution itself does not approve of centralising power.

## **Intent of Constituent Assembly**

On December 13, 1946, Jawaharlal Nehru introduced the aims and objects of the Assembly by resolving that India shall be a Union of territories willing to join the "Independent Sovereign Republic". The emphasis was on the consolidation and confluence of various provinces and territories to form a strong united coun-

Many members of the Constituent



Members of the Constituent Assembly in February 1948. • THE HINDU ARCHIVES

Assembly were of the opinion that the principles of the British Cabinet Mission Plan (1946) be adopted, which contemplated a Central government with very limited powers whereas the provinces had substantial autonomy. The Partition and the violence of 1947 in Kashmir forced the Constituent Assembly to revise its approach and it resolved in favour of a strong Centre. The possibility of the secession of States from the Union weighed on the minds of the drafters of the Constitution and ensured that the Indian Union is "indestructible". In the Constituent Assembly, B.R Ambedkar, the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, observed that the word 'Union' was advisedly used in order to negative the right of secession of States by emphasising, after all, that "India shall be a Union of States". Ambedkar justified the usage of 'Union of States' saying that the Drafting Committee wanted to make it clear that though India was to be a federation, it was not the result of an agreement and that therefore, no State has the right to secede from it. "The federation is a Union because it is indestructible," Ambed-

The usage of 'Union of States' by Ambedkar was not approved by all and faced criticisms from Maulana Hasrat Mohani who argued that Ambedkar was changing the very nature of the Constitution. Mohani made a fiery speech in the Assembly on September 18, 1949 where he vehemently contended that the usage of the words 'Union of States' would obscure the word 'Republic'. Mohani went to the extent of saying that Ambedkar wanted the 'Union' to be "something like the Union proposed by Prince Bismarck in Germany, and after him adopted by Kaiser William and after him by Adolf Hitler". Mohani continued, "He (Ambedkar) wants all the States to come under one rule and that is what we call Notification of the Constitution. I think Dr. Ambedkar is also of that view, and he wants to have that kind of Union. He wants to bring all the units, the provinces and the groups of States, everything under the thumb of the Centre." However, Ambedkar clarified that "the Union is not a league of States, united in a loose relationship; nor are the States the agencies of the Union, deriving powers from it. Both the Union and the States are created by the Constitution, both derive their

the other". The sharing of powers between the Union and the States is not restricted to the executive organ of the government. The judiciary is designed in the Constitution to ensure that the Supreme Court, the tallest court in the country, has no superintendence over the High Courts. Though the Supreme Court has appellate jurisdiction – not only over

respective authority from the Consti-

tution. The one is not subordinate to

the other in its own field... the auth-

ority of one is coordinate with that of

High Courts but also over other courts and tribunals - they are not declared to be subordinate to it. In fact, the High Courts have wider powers to issue prerogative writs despite having the power of superintendence over the district and subordinate courts. Parliament and Assemblies identify their boundaries and are circumspect to not cross their boundaries when it comes to the subject matter on which laws are made. However, the Union Parliament will prevail if there is a conflict.

## Word play

The members of the Constituent Assembly were very cautious of not using the word 'Centre' or 'Central government' in the Constitution as they intended to keep away the tendency of centralising of powers in one unit. The 'Union government' or the 'Government of India' has a unifying effect as the message sought to be given is that the government is of all. Even though the federal nature of the Constitution is its basic feature and cannot be altered, what remains to be seen is whether the actors wielding power intend to protect the federal feature of our Constitution. As Nani Palkhivala famously said, "The only satisfactory and lasting solution of the vexed problem is to be found not in the statute-book but in the conscience of men in power".

Mukund P. Unny is an advocate practising in

The government and industry should collaborate to develop a sustainable restart strategy



**USHA PADHEE & ADITYA TIWARI** 

After months of closing their borders, regions that have contained the spread of CO-VID-19 are trying to find ways of reopening their borders. However, there are many apprehensions in doing this. It is not easy for governments to reopen their borders, allow traffic and still keep the virus away.

Airlines have been battling uncertainty since March 2020. In April 2020, two thirds of the global fleet of aircraft was grounded, but essential operations were not halted. By raising private capital, receiving government support, cutting costs to the bone, and flying more to transport goods, etc., many airlines have managed to prevent bankruptcy.

## **Restarting operations**

It is challenging for airlines to figure out how they are going to restart operations when customer demand returns to pre-COVID-19 levels. As the vaccination programme unfolds in different parts of the world, it is critical to restart air travel with an internationally reliable, acceptable and harmonious approach. The government and industry should collaborate to develop a sustainable 'restart strategy'. Such a strategy should use a science-based approach and specify how nations must deal with vaccinated and nonvaccinated passengers, how quarantine and testing measures will be adjusted, and how appropriate electronic capture of health data to facilitate international travel can be ensured. It is possible to have a flexible policy. Tools can be developed to continually monitor the risk profiles of different regions.

For India, the large domestic aviation market is a saviour. Collaboration among the States will be critical to ensure the effective restart of the aviation industry. Different testing and quarantine requirements have already created a lot of confusion. As done in natural calamity protocols, a framework establishing clear rules, processes and standards needs to be in place according to the situation. Local actions need to be taken whenever risks are identified, and a consistent policy should be followed. In recent times, micro-containment zones have been helpful over blanket lockdowns in containing infections.

It is time to focus on substituting blanket restrictions with testing, vaccination and limited quarantine measures. Tests and vac-

cines will jointly play a key role in the industry's recovery. Vaccination can be a requirement to travel but should co-exist with testing regimes. It should be considered as a progressive step towards safe travel. Imposing compulsory vaccination as a pre-requisite for air travel will only further impact the sector. It is going to take some time to fully vaccinate everyone who wants to be vaccinated. In the meantime, until the population worldwide is significantly vaccinated, it is important to have robust and stable testing protocols, along with interoperable digital solutions. Implementing widespread CO-VID-19 antigen testing before departure is key to restarting air travel. The Indian Council of Medical Research approved self-testing COVID-19 kits called CoviSelf, which could come in handy.

## Vaccine passports

Digital travel passes and vaccine passports may be another solution. But in order to work, these will require standardisation across borders. Internationally, there is concern that governments may not cooperate or establish shared principles for opening their borders. The concept of vaccine passports is illogical if the same vaccines are not recognised in all the countries. For example, the Pfizer and AstraZeneca vaccines, which are generally recognised as examples of vaccines that will be used as a pre-requirement for vaccine passports, are only accessible in 72 and 74 countries, respectively.

Uneven travel restrictions and passenger demand are driving the need for flexibility and speed in decision-making processes. This is seen across multiple serviceable areas, including long-term fleet planning, network planning, and revenue management. In the present scenario, a network plan needs to be rethought and reworked, as there may be the possibility of different segments in different parts of the network opening and closing depending on the uncertainty of the pandemic and the demand.

The next few years will be challenging for the aviation industry. The actions taken by governments and industry will determine how long it takes for the industry to recover. If the aviation industry has to recover, governments need to come up with consistent policies based on evidence, and industry should do whatever it can to reinstate passenger confidence, embrace new ways of making revenue, and new operational demands. This is the call of the hour even if this means moving outside the comfort zone.

Usha Padhee is Joint Secretary and Aditya Tiwari is a former Young Professional in the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India. Views are personal

# Blended learning won't work

Educators wish to embrace the UGC's new proposal but the ground reality is different

A recent circular by the University Grants Commission (UGC) proposes that all higher educational institutions (HEI) teach 40% of any course online and the rest 60% offline. The concept note circulated by the UGC argues that this "blended mode of teaching" and learning paves the way for increased student engagement in learning, enhanced student-teacher interactions, improved student learning outcomes and more flexible teaching and learning environments, among other things. The note also enlists a few other key benefits such as increased opportunity for institutional collaborations at a distance and enhanced self-learning accruing from blended learning (BL).

Another claim is that BL benefits the teachers as well. It shifts the role of the teacher from being a "knowledge provider to a coach and mentor". The note says this will enable teachers to have a greater influence and effect on students' learning. Further, as against traditional classroom instruction which is "teacherdirected, top-down, and one-size-fitsall", BL is "student-driven, bottomup, and customized". The note adds that BL introduces flexibility in assessment and evaluation patterns as well. Educators wish to embrace the forward-looking proposal but the ground reality is different.

## **Challenges**

The latest All India Survey on Higher Education (2019-20) report shows that 60.56% of the 42,343 colleges in India are located in rural areas and 78.6% are privately managed. Can these colleges successfully implement BL? And what would be the cost of such education?

Only big corporates are better placed to invest in technology and provide such learning. Second, according to datareportal statistics, Internet penetration in India is only 45% as of January 2021. This policy will only exacerbate the existing geographical and digital divide resulting in the exclusion of a large number of rural students. Third, BL leaves little room for all-round formation of the student that includes the development of their intelligent quotient,

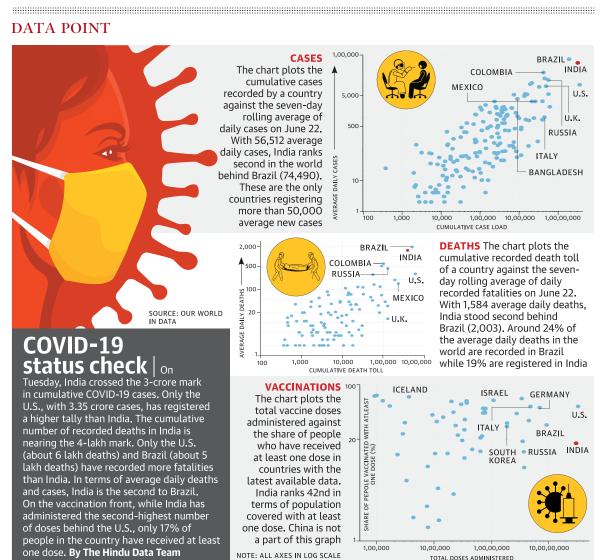
emotional quotient, social quotient, physical quotient and spiritual quotient. What is the guarantee that BL will enhance interactions between students and teachers that lead to personality development, character building and career formation? The listening part and subsequent interactions with the teacher may get minimised. Also, the concept note assumes that all students who enter the arena of higher education have similar learning styles and have a certain amount of digital literacy to cope with the suggested learning strategies of BL. This is far from true. Education in India is driven by a teachercentred approach. Expecting these students to switch over quickly to collaborative and technology-enabled learning will be stressful for them and may accentuate the existing dropout rate in higher education.

## Recommendations

Given these challenges, it is worth considering a few recommendations. The government should ensure equity in access to technology and bandwidth for all HEIs across the country free of cost. Massive digital training programmes must be arranged for teachers. Even the teacher-student ratio needs to be readjusted to implement BL effectively. This may require the appointment of a greater number of teachers. The design of the curriculum should be decentralised and based on a bottom-up approach. More power in such education-related policymaking should be vested with the State governments. Switching over from a teacher-centric mode of learning at schools to the BL mode at the tertiary level will be difficult for learners. Hence, the government must think of overhauling the curriculum at the school level as well. Finally, periodical discussions, feedback mechanisms and support services at all levels would revitalise the implementation of the learning programme of the National Education Policy 2020, BL, and lead to the actualisation of the three cardinal principles of education policy: access, equity and quality.

A. Thomas is Principal, Loyola College, and K.S. Antonysamy is Associate Professor, Lovola College





## The Man Prindu. FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 24, 1971

# Taiwan leaflets in balloons

Patna, June 23: Pamphlets and leaflets in Chinese script airdropped in balloons in many North Bihar villages between June 14 and 18, deciphered subsequently, urge people living in Communist China to "respond to President Chiang Kai-Shek's call to attack Mao and carry out your determination to come back to Taiwan." Booklets, reported to be Chinese calendars used in Taiwan, say "how happy are people in Taiwan. They are united in their resolve to recapture the Chinese mainland held by Mao. Carry out your determination to come away to Taiwan." It is reported that on June 19, 1969 also balloons containing stimilar K.M.T. propaganda literature were dropped in Giridih, Palamau, Santhal Parganas, Monghyr, Shahabad, Saharsa, Purnea and Gaya districts of Bihar. This time balloons containing leaflets and other articles of daily use were dropped in villages of Ranchi, Palamau, Santhal Parganas, Bhagalpur, Monghyr, Hazaribagh and Purnea dis-

## A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 24, 1921

## Resurrection of the dead.

We were told the other day by some of the foreign papers that science has succeeded in discovering a way to restore the old to youth. The resurrection of the dead to life is the next logical advance in the triumphant march of science and even this is claimed to have been in a way achieved by the discoveries of a British physician, Dr. Cranston Walker. Writing in the British Medical Journal, on two of his most successful experiments in this direction, Dr. Walker claims to have found out the means of stimulating the heart to renewed action after it has once ceased to beat. The agent of revival which is called Adrenalin is an extract from the kidney glands of animals, which is said to act as a very powerful stimulant to the muscles of the heart. One of the experiments successfully performed with Adrenalin was in the case of a child which, according to the Doctor, had been "dead" for at least four minutes. The other case described is of a woman of 30 who dropped apparently dead. "The heart stopped beating, the jaw set and the eyes indicated that death had ocurred. Adrenalin was injected, and in a few minutes the patient sat up and began to talk." Dr. Walker admits that the woman might possibly have revived under different treatment but says that every other method had failed when he injected the medicine.

## FROM PAGE ONE

# ED transfers ₹8.441 crore worth assets to banks

This included properties worth ₹969 crore located in foreign countries. "The quantum of the attached and seized assets represents 80.45% of total bank loss of ₹ 22,585.83 crore," said the

A substantial part of the assets in question was held in the name of dummy entities, trusts, third persons or relatives of these accused and these entities were their proxies for holding the properties.

Prosecution complaints were filed against all the three accused after completion of the investigation under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act. Extradition requests were sent for them to the United Kingdom (Mr. Mallya and Mr. Modi) and Antigua and Barbuda (Mr. Choksi). The extradition of Mr. Mallya has been ordered by the Westminster Magistrates Court and confirmed by the U.K. High Court. As he has been denied permission to file an appeal in the U.K. Supreme Court, his extradition to India has become final. However, the matter is pending with the U.K.'s Home Department for quite some time now.

The Westminster Magistrates Court had also ordered the extradition of Mr. Modi to India. After his arrest in 2019, on a request from the Indian authorities, he has been in judicial custody in a London jail for the last over two years.

# Modi to meet J&K leaders today

The passage of the Reorganisation Act was opposed tooth and nail by the mainstream Kashmir parties, with many leaders being immediately taken into custody and released months later in a staggered manner. Many of these parties, such as the PDP and the NC, as well as the CPI(M), formed the PAGD, which stood for talks with all stakeholders and refused to fight Assembly polls till their demands were met.

The government on its part remained adamant on the course it set for itself and managed to hold the District Development Council (DDC) polls in the interim, where the Gupkar alliance parties did quite well.

The Gupkar alliance contesting the polls and their good performance were a signal to both the government and the parties that talks had to take place if the political limbo had to be resolved in any manner. Talks have been called to streamline the process of delimitation in J&K and seek political validation to this exercise, sources in the government say. An earlier meeting held by the delimitation commission in February saw three out of its five associate members refusing to attend.

outside hospitals and would

be reported later in the sys-

tem. Such 'home deaths'

"get reported much later

when questions of property

transfer or requirements of

death certificates arise," he

said, which could lower the

gap between the expected

death toll and the actual re-

ecutive Director, Kerala So-

cial Security Mission, who

has been at the forefront of

the State's COVID contain-

ment activities, said that

while delay in reporting

could be one factor, the one

thing that could be inferred

for sure from the said data

was that the number of CO-

VID-19 deaths missed, at

least in the Thiruvananthap-

uram Corporation limits,

timated excess death toll

and the actual COVID

deaths is not very significant

and unless we can get a

split-up of the cause of

deaths, we cannot draw any

other conclusion. It just em-

phasises the strength of our

surveillance and reporting

While the reduction in

death figures for Thiruva-

nanthapuram coincide with

those for the State in 2020,

the low undercount in the

city limits in 2021 cannot be

assumed for other districts

in Kerala. A perusal of

month-wise CRS data for

other districts would have

to be done to see if the trend

holds true for the entire

State and to correctly esti-

mate the undercount factor

Maya in Thiruvananthapu-

ram and Vignesh Radhak-

(With inputs from C.

for Kerala.

rishnan)

system," Dr. Asheel said.

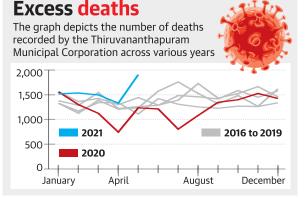
"The difference in the es-

was not high.

Mohammed Asheel, Ex-

gistered numbers.

# Kerala capital bucks excess deaths trend



Unlike 2020, however, the increased number of fatalities due to COVID-19 in the second wave, led to 1,196 and 707 excess deaths between January and May and April-May, respectively, in 2021. The COVID-19 death count for the city limits for January to May 2021 and April-May 2021 were 507 and 453, respectively, for undercount factors of 2.35 and 1.6, respectively. However, the Corporation also reported a COVID-19 death toll of 1,007 in June 2021 alone (till date), which includes reconciled figures from deaths in the second wave besides those of patients from nearby panchayats as well as Kollam district and Kanniyakumari who died at the Government Medical College in Thiruvananthapuram.

In the entire period of the pandemic from April 2020 to May 2021, despite a cumulative COVID-19 death toll of 765, the estimated decrease in overall deaths was

This is unlike more populous cities such as Hyderabad and Kolkata with an estimated undercount factor of 17.5-30.5 and 4.5, respectively, in 2021, and Bengaluru and Chennai with 2.3 and 5.6, respectively, for the entire pandemic period (April 2020 to May 2021). Undercount is measured as the excess deaths divided by the official COVID-19 toll. Not all excess deaths are COVID-related but a bulk of them could be, during a pandemic.

A public health expert, who spoke to The Hindu, explained that there could be deaths due to other causes which might have occurred

# Independent MLAs back Gehlot

They denounce the 'pressure tactics' of the Pilot camp for political appointments

MOHAMMED IQBAL

Independent MLAs supporting the Congress government in Rajasthan on Wednesday expressed faith in the leadership of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot amid the demand for a share in power raised by former Deputy CM Sachin Pilot's camp in the ruling

The independent legislators said the Cabinet expansion and reshuffle was solely Mr. Gehlot's prerogative.

Twelve of the 13 Independents, who met at the Circuit House here, adopted a resolution denouncing the "pressure tactics" of the Pilot camp for political appointments and getting berths in the State Cabinet. The MLAs, most of whom are of the Congress background, said they were not hankering after power and had no desire to become Ministers.

Sirohi MLA Sanyam Lodha told reporters after the



Ashok Gehlot. •

meeting that the Independent legislators, who had extended support to the Gehlot government during the political crisis last year, were willing to make "all sacrifices" for giving a stable regime to the people in the State. "We wish to give a befitting reply to those who want to topple the State government." Mr. Lodha said.

## 'Undisputed leader'

Mr. Lodha, who had contested and won the 2018 Assembly election as a rebel after being denied the Congress ticket, said Mr. Pilot was a "fortunate leader", as

he had not faced any failure in his political career, except when he staged a rebellion last year. "Mr. Gehlot is the undisputed leader of Rajasthan. We have left all decisions to him for managing the present situation," he said.

Former Union Minister Mahadeo Singh Khandela, representing Sikar district's Khandela constituency, said Mr. Gehlot's effective COVID-19 management and his policies for the State's development had made him a political leader liked by all sections of society.

He said all Independents had reposed confidence in Mr. Gehlot's leadership in the interest of the State.

In the hour-long meeting, the MLAs also sought appointments to the vacant posts of revenue officials and regularisation of contract workers, while calling upon all non-BJP parties to launch an agitation against the spiralling petrol and diesel prices. The legislators congratulated the State government for successfully handling the second wave pandemic.

## **Unconditional support**

The independent MLAs unconditional support gave a shot in the arm to Mr. Gehlot, who has been unwilling to accommodate Mr. Pilot and his loyalists in the government since last year's political turmoil.

With the Congress party's central leadership unable to persuade Mr. Gehlot for reaching a comprise, no Cabinet expansion is likely to take place in the near future under pressure from the Pilot camp.

Besides Mr. Lodha and Mr. Khandela, other Independents who attended the meeting were Ramkesh Meena, Ramila Khadiya, Suresh Tak, Khushveer Singh, Om Prakash Hudla, Ramkumar Gaur, Kanti Prasad, Laxman Meena, Alok Beniwal and Babulal Nagar.

# HC declines Facebook, WhatsApp's fresh plea

Plea regarding new privacy policy

STAFF REPORTER

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday declined a fresh plea by Facebook and WhatsApp seeking to put on hold a notice issued by the Competition Commission of India (CCI) asking them to submit certain documents in relation to the probe being conducted on WhatsApp's new privacy policy.

A Vacation Bench of Justices Anup Jairam Bhambhani and Jasmeet Singh said that a similar application seeking a stay of further steps in the investigation had been filed by WhatsApp and Facebook before the regular Bench, which is hearing the primary case.

It noted that no interim relief to WhatsApp and its owner Facebook was granted by the regular Bench on May 6, the previous date of hearing. "For the foregoing reason, we do not consider it appropriate to stay the operation of impugned notice dated June 4, 2021, at this

The High Court, however, said "there is no doubt" that the issuance of June 4 notice by the CCI Director General was a step in furtherance of the investigation commenced pursuant to the order of the competition watchdog.

Additional Solicitor General Aman Lekhi, for the CCI, had stated that it would take substantial time for the preparation of a report pursuant to the receipt of the information called for by way of the notice.

The report would not be completed at least before the next date of hearing before the regular Bench on

Facebook and WhatsApp's fresh application was made in a pending case filed by them challenging the CCI's March 24 direction ordering a probe into WhatsApp's controversial new privacy policy.

Model Tenancy Act is a

Housing and Urban Affairs

Minister Hardeep Puri on

concerns about the Model

Tenancy Act, reiterating that

it was a "model Act" and that

it would have to be passed by

Wednesday addressed

the States, Mr. Puri was

for those living in

responding to concerns in Maharashtra that the Act

would lead to a spike in rent

model Act, says Puri

NEW DELHI

# BJP got 76% of donations by electoral trusts: ADR

7 trusts got ₹363.51 cr. from corporates

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI Over 76% of the donations made by the electoral trusts, which submitted their annual reports for 2019-20 to the Election Commission of India and declared to have received funding, went to the BJP, a report of the Association for Democratic Reforms said on Wednesday.

Out of the 21 registered trusts, 14 submitted their annual reports to the ECI and seven of those declared that they had received funds that were then given to parties, the report said. The seven trusts that were analysed received a total of ₹363.51 crore from various corporates and individuals. They gave a total of ₹362.91 crore to political parties.

Cong. gets ₹31 crore

While the BJP got the largest share, the Congress received ₹31 crore, followed by the Aam Aadmi Party with ₹11.26 crore. Prudent Electoral Trust contributed ₹271.5 crore, Jankalyan Electoral Trust gave ₹70.95 crore and AB General Electoral Trust ₹10 crore.

"JSW Steel Ltd. contributed the highest amount worth ₹39.10 crore amongst all donors of the electoral trusts, followed by Apollo Tyres Ltd. with ₹30 crore and Indiabulls Infraestate Ltd. which contributed ₹25 crore, to various trusts," the report said.

Electoral Paribartan Trust declared ₹3 crore donation to a party through electoral bonds, but the name of the party was not mentioned. The ADR observed that with half the trusts that submitted their annual reports declaring nil contributions, it raised a question over the continued registration of such electoral trusts.

# NGO files plea against former NRC Coordinator

Prateek Hajela manipulated family tree verification: NGO

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The NGO whose July 2009 petition in the Supreme Court led to the exercise of updating the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam has filed a police complaint against former NRC State Coordinator Prateek Hajela.

In its first information report (FIR) with the Additional Director General of Police of the Criminal Investigation Department on June 21, the Assam Public Works (APW) said Mr. Hajela manipulated the family tree verification during the NRC update exer-

Mr. Hajela did this in collaboration with some officers of migrant background, data entry operators, a few minority leaders, and some 'anti-national elements',



Prateek Hajela

APW's Aabhijeet Sharma said in the FIR.

Referring to an affidavit filed by Mr. Hajela's successor Hitesh Dev Sarma in the Supreme Court and the Gauhati High Court, the APW said the NRC list had many anomalies and the names of many illegal and doubtful persons were included.

The draft NRC published in August 2019 had left out the names of 19.06 lakh of some 3.3 crore applicants. The inclusion of a very high percentage of illegal and doubtful persons' names in the NRC pointed to manipulations in the family tree verification, the APW said.

"We suspect that Prateek Hajela and his close associates, in collaboration with some officers of migrant background, data entry operators, some minority leaders and some anti-national elements, used the government mechanism to insert the names of illegal migrants in the updated NRC," it said in the FIR.

The family tree verification did not work properly as most NRC officials working in immigrant-dominated areas belonged to the immigrant community whose citizenship was never verified. the APW stated.

The model Act, however, will be applicable to future agreements and not to existing ones.

rent-controlled buildings.

## ED attaches assets in **Unitech Group case**

NEW DELHI The Enforcement Directorate has attached assets worth ₹81.10 crore, including a helicopter, in connection with the money laundering probe against the Unitech Group and others. The attached properties include 101 land parcels located in Santacruz

in Mumbai owned by the Shivalik Group, The ED alleges that the Unitech Group diverted proceeds of the crime, to the tune of ₹574 crore, to the Shivalik Group and, in turn, the entities of the Shivalik Group bought the land parcels and the

## Assam CM for transfer of ONGC assets to OIL

GUWAHAT

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi to consider transferring all assets of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation in the northeast to the Oil India Limited because of the latter's roots in the region. The Chief Minister wrote to the PM on June 5. A copy of the letter was made available on June 23. Assam and Assam-Arakan Basin in the northeast are the most prolific sedimentary basins in India. Both the public sector OIL and ONGC are the major

## Two bodies recovered from Ganga Canal

Two bodies were recovered

operators in the region.

GHAZIABAD

from two cars during the desilting of the Ganga canal in Muzaffarnagar district of Uttar Pradesh on Tuesday, police said. They were found in a decomposed state and were identified through documents found on them. The desilting process began on Monday and the cars surfaced after the flow of water was stopped. The first body has been identified as that of Dilshad Ansari, 32, a taxi driver. The second body was found in a car that was spotted around 55 km from the spot where Dilshad's body was found. The deceased was identified as former insurance

company employee Harendra

Dutt Atreya, 62

U.S. Navy Carrier Strike Group is making transit through Indian Ocean Region

IAF, Navy match skills with U.S. team

# HC seeks details of Sushant biopic

Sushant Singh Rajput

STAFF REPORTER

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday sought to know if a movie titled Nyay: The Justic, based on the late Bollywood actor Sushant Singh Rajput's life, was released on June 11.

A Vacation Bench of Justices Anup Jairam Bhambhani and Jasmeet Singh made the query after Sushant's father Krishna Kishore Singh and the makers of the movie gave contradictory statements in court. While Mr. Singh claimed that the movie has not yet been released, the makers of the film claimed that it was released on an OTT

platform on June 11. "A lot depends on whether the movie has been released or not. If it has been released, the matter can wait for the Roster Bench. If it has not been released, the court may be inclined to hear it now." the Vacation Bench said.

The High Court's direction came on a fresh appeal filed by Sushant's father challenging an HC's order refusing to stay the release of the movie or to restrain anyone from using his son's name in movies.



sage exercise on Wednesday with U.S. Navy Carrier Strike Group (CSG) Ronald Reagan during its transit through the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). "The Indian Naval war-

ships along with aircraft from Navy and Indian Air Force (IAF) are engaged in joint multi-domain operations with the U.S. Carrier Strike Group...," the Navy The exercise aims to

strengthen the bilateral relationship and cooperation by demonstrating the ability to integrate and coordinate comprehensively in maritime operations.

"This is what maritime theatre operations would look like. A CSG with integral air power and warships supported by land-based mari-



Passage exercise: The integrated exercise of the IAF and the Navy with the U.S. Navy Carrier Strike Group Ronald Reagan gets under way in the Indian Ocean Region . • PTI

time aircraft," a naval officer

The Navy's INS Kochi and Teg, along with P-8I longrange maritime patrol aircraft and MiG 29K fighters, are participating in the exercise.

For the exercise, which is under the area of responsibility of the Southern Air Command, the IAF forces are operating from bases under four operational commands and include Jaguar and Su-30 MKI fighters, Phalcon and Netra early warning aircraft and IL-78 air to air refueller aircraft, an IAF statement said.

The U.S.' CSG comprises Nimitz class aircraft carrier

sion has become more and

more clear. For example, a

Ronald Reagan, Arleigh Burke class guided missile destrover USS Halsey and Ticonderoga class guided missile cruiser USS Shiloh.

It has fielded F-18 fighters and E-2C Hawkeye early warning aircraft in the exercise being carried out south of Thiruvananthapuram on the western seaboard.

laxed by the ECI despite an

apology, the plea said.

# ECI shows partiality to ruling party: plea

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A plea in the Supreme Court has said the Election Commission of India was showing "partiality" to the ruling party. A Kerala-based man recounted recent events to contend that the poll body was "not immune from meddling by the ruling party".

"On several occasions, the ECI has been accused of not responding adequately against the Model Code of Conduct violations by the ruling party," K. Sathyan, a

native of Kannur, represented by advocates Kaleeswaram Raj, Thulasi K. Raj and Rajen Shonker, submitted.

Mr. Sathyan asked the court to allow him to intervene in a petition filed by the Association of Democratic Reforms (ADR), represented by advocate Prashant Bhushan, to constitute an independent collegium to appoint Election Commissioners.

"In recent times, this nexus between the ruling party and the Election Commis-

ruling party member, while campaigning for the Assam State elections in 2021, threatened an opposition party chief with jail. The ECI issued a 48-hour campaign bar, but in a rare instance, reduced it to 24 hours after he issued an apology," the intervention application said.

However, in another "comparable instance" the same year, a similar ban on an Opposition party leader in Tamil Nadu was not re-

The ADR petition said government appointments to the poll body was a violation of the Basic Structure of the Constitution and created a dent on free and fair elections in a democracy. "The appointment of Chief Elec-

tion Commissioner and Election Commissioners is done solely by the Executive. Election Commission should be insulated from political and/ or Executive interference," the petition said.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

President Ram Nath Kovind will leave for his native village, Paraunkh, in Uttar Pradesh's Kanpur Dehat, on June 25 by a special train from the Safdarjung railway station in Delhi.

"The train will make two stop-overs, at Jhinjhak and Rura of Kanpur Dehat, where the President will interact with his old acquaintances from his school days and from early days of his social service," said a Rashtrapati Bhavan release.

The stop-overs are close to the President's birthplace, Paraunkh, where two functions to felicitate him are scheduled on June 27. On June 28, the President will board the train at Kanpur Central railway station to reach Lucknow for his two-day visit there.

This is the first time the President is visiting his birthplace after taking over the post.

# China raising new units near borders

They are to be used for high-altitude warfare, surveillance

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE

China is raising new militia units comprising local Tibetan youth for high-altitude warfare near Eastern Ladakh, the site of the recent border tensions along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), as well as near its borders with Sikkim and Bhutan, intelligence intercepts have re-

*The Hindu* has learnt that the new units named Mimang Cheton are presently undergoing training, and are to be deployed mostly in upper Himalayan ranges, both in the eastern and western sectors of the India-China border.

It is learnt that two batches of the Mimang Cheton have completed training and have been deployed along various locations in the Chumbi valley, including Ya-



New move: The units are also being deployed near Pangong Tso, from where the PLA pulled back in February. • FILE РНОТО

dong, which borders Sikkim and Bhutan, Cheema, Rinchengang, PB Thang and Phari. A second batch is undergoing training at Phari, which is near Sikkim.

Available information indicates that the units are also being deployed at Rutog in Tibet, near the Pangong Tso (lake) in eastern Ladakh.

Recent reports appearing in China's state media suggest the militia has been used to transport supplies to PLA troops stationed at Rutog. The new units will be used for high-altitude warfare as well for surveillance and for ensuring supplies to PLA troops.

The units are being trained by the PLA, but personnel are vet to get uniforms or ranks. The new Mimang Cheton units mirrors India's .elite and decadesold Special Frontier Force consisting of persons of Tibetan origin.

# Jaishankar flags 'close up deployments'

They are to prevent encroachment of territory, says Beijing in a sharp reaction

China will live up to the written

commitments which are made about

ANANTH KRISHNAN

Continuing "close up deployments" and questions about whether China would "live up to its written commitments" on not deploying a large number of forces were two issues at the heart of the recent tensions along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has said.

The Minister was speaking at the Qatar Economic Forum on Tuesday, where he was asked about the boundary situation. The Chinese Foreign Ministry on Wednesday reacted sharply to a question on his comments, telling reporters that China's deployments were "aimed at preventing and responding to encroachment and threat on China's territory by relevant

country". The comments from both sides underlined the continuing tensions, and stalemate, along the LAC, with military-level talks failing to

both countries not deploying a large armed force at the border. And the larger issue really, whether we can build this relationship on the basis of mutual sensitivity, mutual respect and mutual interest S. JAISHANKAR External Affairs Minister make headway following an

The issue there is whether

agreement to disengage at Pangong Lake in February. Talks on continuing standoffs have been slow-moving, with unresolved issues in Depsang, Demchok, Gogra and Hot Springs areas in Ladakh. Asked about what role the

Quad - the informal India, U.S., Australia, Japan grouping - grouping could play in India's response to the border situation, Mr. Jaishankar said, "I think when it comes to Quad and the India-China border issue, we're talking apples and oranges. I'm not quite sure I'd really see a tight connection." While the Quad had "come together on a common agenda" that included maritime security, connectivity and even working on vaccines, the border issue, he said, "has pre-existed upon, in many ways, it's a challenge, a problem, which is quite independent of the

Quad". He said there were "two big issues". "One of course is that the close up deployments still continue, especially in Ladakh. The issue there is whether China will live up to the written commitments which are made about both countries not de-

on Wednesday blamed Bi-

har Chief Minister Nitish Ku-

mar for engineering a split

in the LJP. Mr. Yadav told Mr.

Paswan that "time has come

to take a political decision

engineered a split in the LJP.

Nitish Kumar is directly res-

ponsible for it. He was also

involved in breaking the LJP

in 2005, 2010 an 2020," the

RJD leader told mediaper-

Mr. Yadav was in Delhi to

see his ailing father and RJD

chief Lalu Prasad who is un-

dergoing medical assistance

at his elder daughter Misa

Bharti's residence after get-

ting bail from the Jharkhand

High Court in multi-crore

for Chirag Bhai to take a pol-

itical decision for future. It's

up to him what would he do

but the time has come for

him to leave those persons

Mr. Yaday said, "It is time

fodder scam cases.

"Everyone knows who

for future."

sons in Patna.

ploying a large armed force at the border. And the larger issue really, whether we can build this relationship on the basis of mutual sensitivity, mutual respect and mutual interest. So I do see why vou're interested in both the issues, but I would urge you to look at them, somewhat independent of each other," he said.

In Beijing, China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian told reporters, "China's military deployment along the western section of the China-India border is a normal defence arrangement." He said it was "aimed at preventing and responding to encroachment and threat on China's territory by relevant country".

"For a long time, the Indian side has been increasing its military deployment along the China-India border and encroaching on China's territory," he said, adding this was "the root cause of tension along the China-India border."

# Nishad Party seeks larger power share

It is interested in Deputy CM's post

Sanjay Nishad

as a CM. I have given a mes-

sage to the BJP government

that if it makes Dr. Sanjay

the new CM or present [me]

as a deputy CM face, look

how they form the govern-

ment in 2022," Mr. Nishad

He later met Deputy

Chief Minister Keshav Pra-

sad Maurya. Mr. Maurya de-

scribed it as a courtesy call.

community, along with

their connected sub-castes

Mallah, Kewat, Dheevar,

Bind, Kashyap and others,

are an important segment of

the non-Yadav backward

vote in the State. Among

their political icons are ban-

dit-turned-politician Phoo-

lan Devi. The Nishad Party

emerged into the political

scene ahead of the 2017 As-

sembly polls, projecting it-

self as the voice of the back-

ward riverine castes.

The Nishads, a riverine

told a television channel.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT LUCKNOW

The Nishad Party, an Other Backward Class (OBC) based ally of the ruling BJP in Uttar Pradesh, has demanded a larger share in power ahead of 2022 Assembly poll, even showing interest in the Deputy Chief Minister post.

Party president Sanjay Nishad, a self-proclaimed 'political godfather of fishermen,' has said the BJP failed to fulfil the promises made by it in 2019, when his party dumped the SP-BSP alliance and switched over.

Interacting with reporters in Lucknow on Wednesday, Mr. Nishad issued a warning to the BJP saying that its ally would not be able to win again in U.P. if it hurt the Nishads. "If BJP gives us dukh, they will also get dukh [If the BJP causes us misery, it will also face misery]," he said. "If they want to come to power, they will have to please the Nishads," he stated. He claimed that the BJP had promised him that he would either get a Rajya Sabha berth or a high-profile ministerial berth in U.P.

"Our community aspires to have a CM. All other communities have had a CM. My people in their hearts want to see Dr. Sanjay [himself]

# EC speeding up delimitation process

Official holds virtual meetings with 20 Deputy Commissioners in J&K

PEERZADA ASHIQ

In a bid to speed up the process of delimitation of the Assembly and Parliamentary constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir, Deputy Election Commissioner Chandra Bushan Kumar held virtual meetings with 20 Deputy Commissioners (DCs) of the Territory Wednesday.

Mr. Kumar held two separate virtual meetings, first with the DCs, who are also District Electoral Officers (DEOs), from the Jammu region, followed by meetings with the officers from the Kashmir region.

It was the first such meeting with the DEOs since the



On course: The delimitation meeting comes ahead of the Gupkar alliance's meeting with the PM. • NISSAR AHMAD

J&K Delimitation Commission headed by Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai (retd.), with five associate members comprising local Members of Parliaments, was set up in March 2020.

Officials said the exercise was aimed at collecting data on population, and details of the topography of each Assembly and Parliamentary constituency in I&K.

The move comes days af-

## Alert after militant attack

An alert was sounded in J&K on Wednesday, as a militant and a civilian were killed in two separate incidents. Officials said the security forces had been directed to stay alert "after intelligence inputs that militants may step up attacks".

ter National Conference (NC) president Dr. Farooq Abdullah, whose party has three MPs from J&K, dropped broad hints at joining the Commission, Earlier, NC MPs boycotted the meetings.

## Nitish for LJP split He reached out to Chirag Paswan SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT After Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) leader Chirag Paswan, now Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav

Tejashwi blames

Tejashwi Yadav

said, "he [Mr. Kumar] is engaged in sabotaging a political party, instead of working for the development of Bihar. The people of Bihar will be benefited, if he does just the opposite," he said.

"Unemployment in the State is at all-time high and fuel prices are skyrocketing but the Chief Minister behaves like an innocent person as he has no idea of inflation and price rise of commodities," he alleged, adding, "Mr. Kumar is trying to destroy Bihar in his re-

maining life". When asked why he has been out of Bihar for so long, Mr. Yadav retorted, "besides being a politician, I am a son also and my father is not keeping well these days. So, I was with him in Delhi to look after him". Mr. Yadav said his father would

# Key decisions on Punjab govt. in July

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Congress president Sonia Gandhi will make key decisions on the Punjab government by the first week of July, said general secretary in charge of the State Harish Rawat on Wednesday after his meeting with former chief Rahul Gandhi in Delhi.

Navjot Singh Sidhu, who joined the Congress in 2017, has questioned the leadership of Chief Minister Cap-

tain Amarinder Singh and made statements against the working of the government. Mr. Rawat evaded questions on whether Mr. Sidhu's comments will be treated as violation of party discipline.

Mr. Rawat said he is studying all the comments made by Mr. Sidhu and will advise him accordingly. "The general secretary's job is to give advice and so far the Punjab leaders have

listened to me. At an appropriate time, I will give advice or if need be directions."

He said the AICC panel formed by Ms. Gandhi on Punjab held detailed discussions with Capt. Singh on Tuesday on the progress of 18 major manifesto promises and set deadlines for him to deliver on pending pledges, including Bargari and drug rackets within the perimeters of the law.

Questions were also asked

on why Mr. Gandhi did not meet the Chief Minister. Mr. Rawat said the leadership will meet when required.

Mr. Rawat said the panel had asked Capt. Singh to take action against the sand and transport mafia, besides ensuring free 200 units of power per urban household.

"A lot of promises were made in our manifesto. Many have been fulfilled. We discussed all that with the Chief Minister," he said.

(Sd/-) Director, IAV

## having bunch of thoughts," he said. 'High unemployment' Mr. Yadav also took on the

Bihar Chief Minister and

come to Patna soon.

# Bengal FinMin writes to Sitharaman

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT KOLKATA

West Bengal Finance Minister Amit Mitra on Wednesday wrote to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman alleging that there has been a steady breakdown of the spirit of cooperative federalism in GST Council meetings.

"What pains me the most is the fact that the **GST Council Meetings have** become acrimonious, vexing and almost toxic with erosion of mutual trust that held past between States and the Centre since inception," he said. He urged her to consider a "course correction" in the manner of functioning of the council. "We will respond in equal measure if you bring back consensual atmosphere that has defined GST Council since its inception."

Dr. Mitra stated that after hours of submission by Ministers, no conclusion and consensus was declared at the end of a meeting, as in the case of 42nd meeting of the council. The Minister has sent a note of dissent after the meeting. He alleged that his microphone was switched off at a crucial time.



SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Amid high drama, at a meeting of the parliamentary standing committee on science and technology on Wednesday to discuss "vaccine development for CO-VID-19" and "genetic sequencing of coronavirus and its variants," BJP members insisted that the question if it was appropriate for the panel to discuss the matter be referred to Rajya Sabha Chairman Venkaiah Naidu.

Sources said the BJP members staged a walkout when committee Chairman and senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh refused to postpone the meeting. AIMIM's Asaduddin Owai-

si, IUML's E.T. Mohammad Basheer, CPI's Binoy Viswam and other Opposition members vehemently called for the meeting to continue.

BJP MP from Unnao, Sakshi Maharaj, demanded a vote to settle the dispute. Mr. Maharaj had written to Mr. Ramesh ahead of the meeting, protesting against the choice of the subject. A few other BJP members too, sources said, wrote to Mr. Ramesh on similar lines.



Jairam Ramesh

There were 11 BJP MPs and seven opposition members. Mr. Ramesh, the sources said, refused to hold a vote. "He argued that the meetings of a parliamentary standing committee are always conducted through consensus. There would be no vote," he said, "even if this is the last meeting I chair," a member who attended the meeting said.

With the impasse continuing, Mr. Ramesh, the sources said, remained adamant that the meeting would not be postponed and he called for the witnesses who were waiting for nearly an hour. At this stage, the BJP MPs staged a walkout. A few of them returned to the meeting to hear the official.

Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India K. VijayRaghavan; Renu Swarup, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology; and Director General of CSIR (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research) Shekhar C. Mande; and other officials participated in the meeting. NITI Aayog member and Chairman of the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 V.K. Paul, who was also called as a witness, skipped the meeting.

## Questions asked

During the last 90 minutes of the meeting, the members managed to ask a few questions, including why India's genome sequencing is at a miserable 0.13% as against the 5% target. So far, only genome sequencing of only 40,000 samples have been done. Now that technology transfer of Covaxin has been done to few other domestic manufacturers. questions were also asked on what will be the pricing for these new vaccines.

Ms. Swarup did not answer the questions raised by the members on the issue.

**KERALA TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION LTD** 

Trans Towers (6<sup>th</sup> Floor), Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram, Telephone: 0471-2327881, 2326883, web: www.ktdfc.kerala.gov.in **Expression of Interest for procurement of electric cars** Notification No. KTDFC/E-Vehicle/2848/Fin/2021 dated 18-06-2021 Expression of interest called from manufacturers of E-Cars.

**Expression of Interest** 

Expression of Interest are invited for the Establishment

of BSL-III facility for "Institute of Advanced

Virology", Bio 360 Life Sciences Park, Thonnakkal,

Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala - 695317, so as to

reach the office undersigned not later than 5.30 pm

on or before **15<sup>th</sup> of July 2021.** For more details visit

www.kscste.kerala.gov.in. For any clarification

please contact Phone No. 8594097653.

For any further details, please contact KTDFC (Ph: 9495256449).

For details visit us on the web: www.ktdfc.kerala.gov.in

Date: 22/06/2021 (Sd/-) General Manager

submission of Tenders

**ELECTRONICS CORPORATION OF** TAMIL NADU LIMITED (ELCOT) - CHENNAI - 35 **TENDER NOTICE** ELCOT invites bids for Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Tablets, All in One Desktops for TN Legislative Assembly and Network switches for TN Legislative Assembly & SECNET ELCOT/Proc/OT/33423/Tablet, AIO & Switches (NEVA)/2021-22 Due Date & Time for 02.07.2021 @ 4.00 PM

Tender Opening Date & Time | 02.07.2021 @ 5.00 PM Earnest Money Deposit Rs. 5,00,000/-Tender Fee Rs.10,000/-For further details visit our websites: www.elcot.in www.tenders.tn.gov.in, https://tntenders.gov.in. MANAGING DIRECTOR DIPR/1837/TENDER/2021

## TAMIL NADU TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD Notice Inviting Tenders (E-Tendering Process) SI.No Tender Inviting Authority Specification No T-2190, T-2191, T-2193, T-2194, T-2195 SE/Transmission-IV T-2192 CE/P&C

OFFICE OF PROJECT DIRECTOR, SPMU, ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA GROUND WATER DEPARTMENT, JAIPUR
72-B, JHALANA INSTITUTIONAL AREA, JHALANA DOONGRI, JAIPUR

For details of works / Procurement / Due date of submission / opening, viewing and

downloading of e-tenders, please visit www.tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app, www.tantransco.gov.in, www.tenders.tn.gov.in

BID No. 1/2021-22 On behalf of his Excellency the Governor of Rajasthan, bid amounting to Rs. 1095.01 Lacs is invited through E-Procurement for the Construction of Piezometer along with Cement Concrete Platform and information board in ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA with

Two year defect liability Period.
The above bid can be downloaded from under mentioned website on date 17-06-2021 and will be uploaded upto 15.07.2021 upto 02.00 PM.

Other particular of bid may be visited on procurement (www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) http://phedwater.rajasthan.gov.in/ (Departmental website).

UBN: GWD2122WLOB00061 SPMU, ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA

**PANCHAYAT RAJ DEPARTMENT** ANDHRA PRADESH RURAL ROAD CONNECTIVITY PROJECT (APRRP) PRIOR NOTICE OF INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (NCB)

IFB No: 19 to 42/APRRP/PRED/2021-22, Dt: 22-06-2021 The Government of Andhra Pradesh, Panchayat Raj & Rural Development Department has implementing A.P. Rural Road Project (APRRP) for Connecting the habitations having 250+ Population by BC and CC roads including CM/CD works & Bridges as required, funded by Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) vide Loan No: 0063A.

The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj will invite tenders through online percentage rate e-bids from any eligible bidder, to be registered to Government of Andhra Pradesh or any other State Governments/ Government of India, or State / Central Government under takings for the construction of road & bridge work packages through website of Central Public Procurement Portal http://eprocure.gov.in (Organization name: Government of Andhra Pradesh) of National informatics Centre The IFBs from 19 to 42 are expected to be available from 24-06-2021 (tentative) onwards at the website www.eprocure.gov.in

DIPR 188PP/CL, Dt: 23-06-2021

Sd/- Project Director, APRRP / Engineer-in-Chief, PR, Vijayawada.



## **Central Secretariat** building bids put off

The Central Public Works Department extended the last date of submission of bids and opening of technical bids for the construction of the first three buildings of the proposed new Common Central Secretariat from Wednesday to July 14. The CPWD issued a corrigendum on Tuesday extending the

deadlines citing "administrative reasons". This is the second time the deadlines have been pushed in a week, with the earlier extension being from June 16 to Wednesday.

## **Employee challenges IAF** notice for not taking jab

The Gujarat High Court has issued notice to the Indian Air Force on a petition filed by one of its personnel posted in Jamnagar challenging the show-cause notice issued to him for termination of service after he expressed his unwillingness to get vaccinated against COVID-19. A Division Bench of Justices A.J. Desai and A.P. Thaker on Tuesday issued the notice to the IAF and the Central government and also directed the IAF not to take any coercive action against petitioner Yogender Kumar, an IAF corporal, till July 1. Mr. Kumar said he was using Ayurvedic medicine to boost immunity. PTI

### Vets protest against Maneka Gandhi's remarks

NEW DELHI The Indian Veterinary Association (IVA) observed Black Day on Wednesday following the alleged use of slurs by BJP leader Maneka Gandhi against a registered veterinary practitioner. The association has released an audio tape where the leader can be heard speaking with a vet who had treated a dog that allegedly did not recover well after surgery. The leader can be heard threatening to cancel the vet's license. The association said that it had written a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi demanding action against

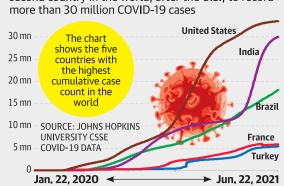
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

India administered over 63.2 lakh doses of COVID-19 vaccines until 9.30 p.m. on Wednesday. After registering a drop on Tuesday, the number of doses administered improved again on the third day since the government's revised vaccine policy came into action.

Madhya Pradesh recorded the highest number of vaccinations (11 lakh) followed by Uttar Pradesh (7.2 lakh) and Maharashtra (6 lakh).

While the pace of the vaccination drive has picked up significantly this week, India needs to administer 82 lakh doses daily on an average to fully inoculate its adult population by December 31,

The seven-day rolling average of daily vaccinations in the country continues to increase. It stood at 46.6 lakh on June 22, which is more than the 32.5 lakh recorded a week before (June 16). It was also significantly higher than the average daily doses re**Infection count** On Tuesday, India became the second country in the world, after the U.S., to record



and 10.72% of people in Bra-

zil and Russia are fully vacci-

nated, respectively. The fi-

gure for the U.K. and the U.S.

stood at 46.39% and 44.98%,

India recorded 53,186 new

COVID-19 cases until 9.30

p.m. on Wednesday, taking

its cumulative caseload to

As many as 1,309 new

deaths were also registered

taking the tally to 3,92,000.

53,186 new infections

respectively.

corded a month before (May 22) which was 18.2 lakh.

About 26.2% of adults in India, 45.5% of those aged above 45, and 48.5% of people aged above 60, were administered with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, until 8 p.m. on Wednesday. While 18% of the country's population has received at least one dose, only 3.8% are fully vaccinated. The figures are based on the estimated population in 2021.

In comparison, 11.64%

were tested in the country on Tuesday (the results for which were made available on Wednesday). Kerala reported 12,787

Around 19 lakh samples

new infections, followed by Maharashtra (10,066) and Tamil Nadu (6,596). Maharashtra recorded 508 new fatalities, followed by Tamil Nadu (166) and Kerala (150). Maharashtra's fatalities include backlog deaths which were missed in the previous

The figures do not include cases and deaths from Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Tripura, and Ladakh. The data are sourced from the respective States' health bulletins. India now records the se-

cond-highest number of seven-day average daily deaths in the world, next to Brazil (2,003) An average of 1,584 daily deaths was recorded on June 22. The two other countries with the highest fatality count after India were Colombia (620) and Argenti-

# 63.2 lakh people get vaccine shots Wednesday marks third consecutive day when numbers crossed 50 lakh Govt. taking steps for jabs for those with no ID proof

More than 2 lakh such beneficiaries vaccinated so far

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Union Health Ministry has said that ownership of a mobile phone is not a prerequisite for COVID-19 vaccination and production of address proof for availing vaccination is not mandatory. In a release issued on Wednesday, the Ministry said it was also not mandatory to pre-register online on CoWIN vaccination.

"For easy understanding of users, CoWIN is now available in 12 languages. These include Hindi, Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Marathi, Gujarati, Odia, Bengali, Assamese, Gurumukhi (Punjabi) and English," said the Ministry.

The Ministry said the Co-WIN platform was an inclusive IT system that provided a flexible framework with all the necessary features to facilitate coverage in the remotest parts of the country



Booking on CoWIN is not mandatory for vaccination.

as well as for those who were most vulnerable.

"While one of the nine identity cards, including Aadhaar, Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC), ration card with photo and disability ID card, is required for availing of vaccination, special provisions have been made by Central Government for organising vaccination sessions for those who may not have any of the nine specified identity cards or own a mobile phone," noted

Taking full benefit of such provisions, more than 2 lakh such beneficiaries have been vaccinated, so far,

Near-to-home vaccination centre services for the elderly and persons with disability were also being provided.

For those who may not have access to Internet or a smartphone or even to a mobile phone, free of cost onsite registration (popularly called walk-in) and vaccination was available at all government vaccination centres. Eighty per cent of all

doses have so far been administered in the on-site vaccination mode. "COVID-19 vaccination

coverage is found to be better in tribal districts than the national averages. Data also shows that more than 70% of vaccination centres are located in rural areas, including more than 26,000 at the Primary Health Centres and 26,000 at the sub-health centres," the Ministry stated.

# Additional foodgrain scheme to continue till November

Cabinet approves proposal for another five months

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the allocation of additional foodgrains to beneficiaries of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) for another five months - from July to November.

The Cabinet, at a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the proposal to continue allocating additional 5 kg of foodgrain a person every month under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana to the 81.35 crore beneficiaries, a government statement said. The additional foodgrain would entail a subsidy of ₹64,031 crore, it noted.

"As Government of India



Basic needs: The additional foodgrain would be distributed to 81.35 crore beneficiaries. • SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

is bearing the entire expenditure towards this scheme without any contribution by States/UTs, an additional expenditure of about ₹3,234.85 crore would be required to be met towards transportation and handling and FPS dealers' margins etc. by Go-

vernment of India. Thus, the total estimated expenditure to be borne by Government of India will be ₹67,266.44 crore," it stated.

The total amount of foodgrain to be distributed was estimated to be 204 lakh me-

# Grey matter loss seen after COVID

Brain imaging study shows effect on regions associated with smell and taste

ЈАСОВ КОЅНҮ NEW DELHI

The loss of smell and taste, which is among the most common symptoms associated with coronavirus infection, is writ large in the brain, says a study that scanned brain images from a group of volunteers to compare changes before and after COVID-19.

The study, which is yet to be peer-reviewed, was able to paint a picture of a distinct loss of grey matter, in regions of the brain associated with smell and taste in those who had tested positive for the coronavirus compared to those who hadn't.

"This [the grey matter loss] might represent a more deleterious impact of CO-VID-19, or be due to risk factors (as hospitalised patients were older, had higher Body



to study changes over time. FILE PHOTO

Mass Index) and blood pressure, and higher risk of diabetes), or an interaction of both. The loss of grey matter in memory-related regions of the brain may in turn increase the risk of these patients of developing dementia in the longer term," say the authors, who include scientists at the University of Oxford, the Imperial College London, and the National Institutes of Health, U.S.

brain imaging scans sourced as part of the U.K. Biobank initiative, that prior to the pandemic had collected a large set of brain-scan images from over 40,000 volunteers over 45. From these, 394, who had tested positive for the virus and 388 who had not (and used as comparator controls), and who had appeared for follow-up brain imaging, were studied to tease out how parts of their brains had changed.

The study compared

Apoorva Bhandari, cognitive neuroscientist, Brown University, United States, said that the findings showed a "significant though subtle grey matter loss" linked to a positive COVID-19 test or diagnosis. "It's harder to say that it was due to COVID and in particular due to the novel coronavirus attacking the neurons. It may be due to secondary effects of the loss of olfactory functioning, which itself is likely due to the virus impacting other non-neural support cells in olfactory epithelium. When you have a profound effect on a sensory system's processing, you can see its effects in subsequent processing regions (including in the grey matter volume) even in normal subjects, which is temporary and reversible," Mr. Bhandari, who wasn't connected to the study, told *The Hindu*.

Going ahead, data from this set that could establish if over time the grey matter loss reversed, stayed stable + or further deteriorated could provide "very strong clues" to not only the mechanism (causing the loss) but the potential significance of these findings, he added.

# Maharashtra monitoring delta plus variant cases

## Samples being collected from contacts of index patients: Minister

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE

Even as Maharashtra Health Minister Rajesh Tope on Wednesday said he has directed officials to monitor the delta plus variant, a member of the COVID-19 task force, Shashank Joshi, said there was no need to panic if COVID-appropriate behaviour was followed. "Variant of concern, Vac-

cine and Panic. 'Delta plus' VOC [variant of concern] does not have sufficient data to be alarmed except that we must continue our strict CO-VID-appropriate behaviour with double mask, avoiding crowds and continuing vaccination. Delta plus virulence unknown, transmission may be more," tweeted Dr. Joshi.

The State has reported 21 of the 40 cases of the variant, considered highly in-

Mr. Tope said they included nine cases in Ratnagiri, seven in Jalgaon, two in Mumbai and one case each in Palghar, Thane and Sindhudurg districts.

## **Transmission data**

"Just how infectious this new variant is can only be ascertained after we have enough data. Currently, the State has reported 21 cases in 7,500odd samples tested after May 15. We need far more samples to gauge the severity. So, I have instructed authorities in each district to collect at least 100 samples [who may have come in contact with the index patients] in recent days to know its spread," he said.

The Centre has advised Maharashtra, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh to strengthen surveillance and appropriate health measures.

"Currently, the number of such Delta Plus variants is only few but the distribution or detection in various States

SCAN TO PLAY

during the past two + months indicates that [it] is already present in some States and [they] may need to enhance their public health response by focusing on surveillance, enhanced testing, quick contact-tracing and priority vaccination," the official statement

said. The State, which has been witnessing a steady decline in the cases since the past month, now has a little over 1.20 lakh active cases, according to government data.

# Ramdev moves SC against FIRs

Yoga guru asks court to protect him from coercive action

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

Yoga guru Ramdev on Wednesday moved the Supreme Court against FIRs registered in various States against his alleged remarks on allopathy's effectiveness in treating COVID-19 cases.

He has urged the top court to protect him from any coercive action on the basis of the FIRs lodged by the Indian Medical Association's (IMA) Patna and Rai-

has also sought a transfer of the FIRs to Delhi and their consolidation.

ous to life), 504 (intentional

insult with intent to provoke

breach of the peace) of the

Several charges He has been booked under Sections 188 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant), 269 (negligent act likely to spread infection of disease danger-

pur branches. Mr. Ramdev Indian Penal Code (IPC) and other provisions of Disaster Management Act, 2005.

The cases are based on his alleged remarks on video about allopathy and medicines such as Remdesivir, Fabiflu, and other drugs approved by the Drugs Controller General of India

to treat COVID-19 patients. The IMA had asked the Central government to take action against him and sent him a legal notice.

# TH GROSSWORD+ 13282 We are digital now. Come solve online. (a) https://argo.page.link/jipTn

@ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

last possible moment (8,4)

23 Anguish and love in Grammy award winning song (5)

24 Outcry about securing victory by bit of audacious trickery (7) 25 Wrong to consume heroin and crack in lively celebration (7) 26 One steering boat in trouble, overwhelmed by a leaking hole (6)

DOWN

**4** Assists investigator finally in exposing illicit exchange of favours

8 Husband goes berserk on ecstasy in Asian capital (8)

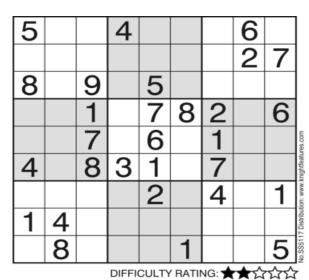
(6,3,5)

16 Most unconvincing charge by leading barrister in case (8)

19 Small toboggan contains bit of dirt and slime (6)

20 Disregard fashion model (6)

## **SUDOKU**



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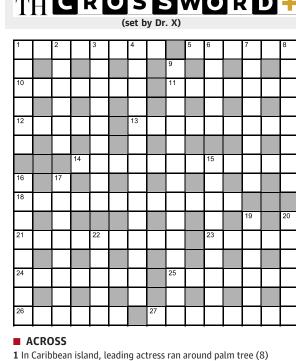
# **FAITH**

# Sanctity of Devi's feet

Generally, living beings suffer many diseases that affect their health in some way or other. Most of these common diseases can be cured with medicine and it is believed that the suffering caused by ill health gets cancelled at the end of one's life. But there is the greater disease of samsara, commonly known as Bhava Roga, that chases all living beings through the seemingly never-ending journey of the cycle of birth. Meditating on Devi's divine feet is a sure cure to this chronic ailment, as it helps to wash away the impurities and vasanas that the jivatma keeps adding in every birth, says Adi Sankara in the Saundarya Lahari, pointed out Sri B. Sundarkumar in a discourse.

If the body or one's clothes get soiled by grime or mud, it is possible to remove these with water and with some effort. But this is not possible if the mind gets sullied. The impurities in the mind are subtle and deep seated; they pertain to the thought and get reflected in one's speech and action as kama, krodha, lobha, moha, mada, matsarya, etc.

In a verse, the acharya celebrates the impact of the power of Her sacred feet. To Brahma the smallest particle of dust from Her feet is most precious and he gathers this carefully as it enables him to accomplish the enormous task of creation that She has assigned to him. So too, Vishnu carries this dust with reverence on his thousand heads, and as for Siva, he takes care to smear this all over his body as the sacred Vibhuti. The bhakti bhava evinced by the Trimurtis inspires devotees to seek shelter at Her feet. By Her compassion and grace the devotee's mind can attain purity. She alone can protect all beings from dangers of all kinds, dread, fear, panic, anxiety, unease, concern etc, that are part of worldly existence.



5 Disreputable character mostly cheated (6) 10 Turning to steal from account, one gets caught, becomes

penniless (7) 11 Creative people from Dire Straits (7)

12 Girl is leaving to get hold of cotton thread (5) 13 Minute amount of cocaine involved in misdeed at work by

# associate (9)

14 By God! Bohr and men designed nuclear weapon (8,4) 18 English frown about smooth Brexit finally getting doubly hard in

21 Risk by man crossing ultimately controversial border in Middle Eastern city (9)

27 Son worries about one nightmare essentially that's most terrifying

1 Ruins lab coat, spilling a chemical element (6) 2 Most exceptional artist on vacation (6)

3 Dashing eyepatch, right for model (9)

6 Not a good cottage perhaps for group of eight (5) 7 Lads running wild outside one cheap bar (8)

9 Where concertgoers might be accepting unpleasant consequences 15 Stood up, suppressing cry of disgust with couple becoming more

17 Food item to munch with slice of bread in plaza (8)

22 Large mineral aggregate around one river in Europe (5)

Senior living homes register a growth in occupancy as elderly residents rally through a challenging year by playing cards and building bonds

## PRIYADERSHINI S

Shridhar Nagalkar plays a game of pool on most evenings. On other days, the 76-year-old retired consultant general surgeon plays bridge with his new friends, all determined to beat the isolation and stress of the pandemic.

"We have to learn to live with the Coronavirus," he says, speaking from Athashri Senior Living homes in Baner, Pune. Positive thinking is the way forward in any adverse situation, he adds.

As soon as the lockdown was lifted in June 2020, he moved into the retirement commune along with his wife Swarupa, 72, "to a place where all amenities are provided for, including mobile ATM services," he says.

According to a 2018 study by CII-ASLI (Confederation of Indian Industry and Association of Senior Living India) Out of India's roughly 13-14 crore senior citizens, 30% live in urban cities and 70% in rural areas. Only 2% of its seniors live in retirement communities.

Though the global health crisis has affected people universally, it has pushed seniors into a more vulnerable position. Being more susceptible to the virus and prone to conditions like depression, this demographic faces specific challenges that the managements of retirement homes and communities were quick to respond to. They implemented total segregation from the outside world, and put in place the required health protocol. Most have begun tutoring seniors in the use of social media, as virtual interaction becomes the

The pandemic has resulted in two significant outcomes: a change in the perception of communes for the elderly and the spirited response by seniors towards

need of the hour.

Silver foxes find a silver lining (Clockwise from left) Yoga and carrom at Covai Old Age Homes around Tamil Nadu; games of pool at Athashri Senior Living in Pune; and a good dose of friendship all around have helped India's senior citizen homes become havens during lockdown - SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



# Tackling a pandenic pandenic with bridge

Colonel A Sridharan (retired), founder and MD, CovaiCare Active Living Homes, which has centres across Tamil Nadu, says, "The demand for senior homes has increased significantly, by almost 25% - 30% in the last one year. At roughly ₹30,000 per month, a couple has a safe and comfortable life in such centres." Except for the distressing fact

that the children of the seniors have not been able to visit as reg-

taken ill. "Many of our residents are retired doctors and advised ularly, residents of such communus on the safety protocols. Every ities have rallied strong month we hold talks, prayer meetings and general meetings so

that everyone is in touch," he Colonel Sridharan, who helped put in place a system of safety protocols and virtual entertainment programmes at Co-

during the pandemic, to keep not

only stress at bay, but also the vi-

of Chacko Homes, Alwaye, Kochi,

is pleased that so far, no one has

Kuruvilla M George, secretary

rus itself.

vaiCare, says, "We play badminton, table tennis, and pool with masks, and maintain social distancing."

At Athashri, every day, Savita Achyut Gokhale weaves garlands from the blossoms of the bakul trees. She keeps a few for herself and places the rest at the reception. "The other residents take the garlands for their happy and keeps me busy," says the 70-year-old, adding that this has been her way to keep everybody's spirits high.

Savita, who lost her husband to COVID-19 two months ago, says about her outreach, "There are many here who are older than I am, and find it difficult to bend and collect the fallen flowers. I spread old dupattas under the trees, gather the flowers and weave them into garlands. Everyone likes to have one. It motivates them."

Meghali Khatdare, CEO of Athashri Homes that caters to nearly 1,900 seniors, backs Savita up by saying, "It was the psychological impact of the pandemic that posed a new challenge." She adds, "We made sure that the residents' every need - grocery, fruits, vegetables, ATM machines, medicines – was made available at their doorstep. To counter the isolation, we planned monthly virtual programmes designed for seniors."

the older people together virtually, "as many seniors do not use the smart phones much," but resident managers taught them to use it and familiarised them with video calls, text messaging and using social media. "This was another engaging and learning activity for the seniors," Meghali adds.

At 92, Captain Kunjipalu TA is the oldest resident of Chacko Homes in Kochi. Driving around the campus in his Honda City, the retired pilot chats with other residents and regales them with stories from his distinguished 37year-long career in the Indian Airlines.

"There should be no complaining. The sun is up. Everything is looking good. The day should start like this," says the man who invested in a retirement home 23 years ago, and moved in seven years ago after his wife passed away.

Despite being bedridden after a stroke last year, Swarn Mongia, Initially it was difficult to bring 92, remains the centre of affection at the Senior Living Home, Godhuli, New Delhi. One of the first residents of the commune nearly 20 years ago, others visit to "seek her blessings".

Her daughter, Amita who lives in Maryland, USA, discloses that when her parents took the decision to move into a senior living commune, it was "social suicide. The act was frowned upon. My mother has been a very spirited woman, always an example to others at Godhuli. That's why they continue to come to her for inspiration, more so in these tough times."

Colonel Sridharan points to the fact that the seniors at the centres are highly qualified retired professionals and very resourceful. "They have devised interesting ways to negotiate the prevailing times."

He shares the example of 71-yearold Revathi Bhaskar, a former bank officer who quickly came up with a game of tambola for the residents.

"In every elderly person, there is a child. This is our second childhood," says Revathi, adding that she put the game together to prevent residents from falling into depression. Around 40 residents signed up immediately for the LockDown Tambola, as Revathi called it. She designed the tickets and preceded the game with a quiz, "as a warm

Though Revathi lost her husband during the pandemic, she says the tambola games are in his memory. She recalls him encouraging her by saying, "You spend one hour and bring joy to 50 people; so it is 50 hours of happiness. This is worth all the trou-

## DEEPA ALEXANDER

In Tamil Nadu's most famous delta town stands the Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswathi Mahal Library (TMSSML), a building that holds in its enfilade of historical layers cabinets filled with literary treasures.

Considered among Asia's oldest libraries, it was founded by the Nayaks in the 16th Century and fortified as a cultural citadel by the Marathas who captured the town in 1675, giving rise to the Tanjore Bhosle dynasty and the unique Tanjore Marathi com-

Under the rule of Serfoji II a century later, the library became a treasure house of palm manuscripts and, today, holds nearly 40,000 volumes primarily in Tamil, Sanskrit, Marathi and Telugu. Art and rare photographs also reside in the bowels of the library, with only a miniscule collection, mostly digitised, on display.

With the COVID-19 pandemic barring entry to most physical museums, it has been left to curators and connoisseurs of art to keep alive interest in these places. Pratap Sinh Serfoji Raje Bhosle, 27, tries to draw the visitor into the annals of Tanjore history with his fourth book Rare Prints that brings alive 129 uncommon pictures from the library.

"I was fascinated with the pictures of Indian kings, princes and British officials in bound albums from the 20th Century. These were stuck on rich handmade paper for reference, and the albums were made in Kot Radha Kishen (presently in Pakistan). I wanted to throw light on these pictures," says Pratap Sinh, the sixth descendant of Serfoji II and grandson of Tulajendra Bhosle, who founded the Maharaja Serfoji II Memorial Hall, a museum in Sadar Mahal Palace, Thanjavur.

Pratap Sinh is an Electronics and Communication Engineering









# The cabinet of wonder

Pratap Sinh Bhosle of the erstwhile royal family of Tanjore unearths uncommon pictures from the archives of the Saraswati Mahal Library for his latest book *Rare Prints* 

graduate, but it is as the social media manager of the family museum and an author of three books, including Contributions of Thanjavur Maratha Kings, that he has come into his own.

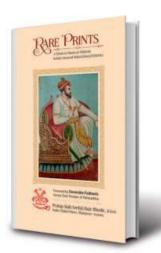
## From the family album

"I am interested in old photographs - both as markers of history and for restoration. I have posted many related to Thanjavur on my blog and Facebook and Instagram pages," he says.

"While going through the digital photo albums of the library's programmes which my grandfather, Tulajendra Bhosle attended as a guest of honour, I recollected seeing pictures of dignitaries such as Indira Gandhi, Jayachamarajendra Wadiyar, Sarojini Naidu, Sharad Pawar, PV Narasimha Rao, Rajendra Prasad and Kamaraj. I requested the librarian for these photos and a search through many almirahs

resulted in finding these albums that had been locked away for years," says Pratap Sinh adding how he stumbled upon some of these pictures not published to date or not found on the Internet.

Edited by educator and researcher Jeetendra Hirschfeld,



Rare Prints is a tribute to the library. With forewords from political stalwarts and cultural aficionados, the first few pictures in the book are from an album of the 1900s.

The first is a tribute to the great Maratha warrior, Chattrapati Shivaji, who sits astride a horse in black and white splendour. Colour pictures with added pigments give a real feel to the book. Each is accompanied by a brief text describing the mood and the moment. Pictures of two unique manuscripts also feature.

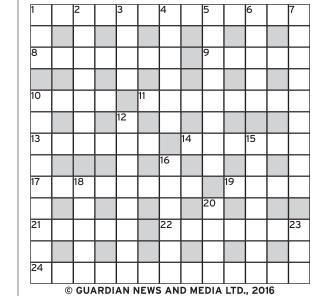
Some of the pictures such as that of Venkoji, founder of the Bhosle dynasty of Tanjore, seated on a throne, jewelled scabbard by his side, and Sujan Bai Sahib, a queen, with bow grasped in hand and a quiver full of arrows on her back, offer an exhaustive tour of the centuries.

Pictures published by the Chitrashala Press, Pune, have reproduced well, retaining the jewellike tones. This is followed by digital prints of pictures from the early 20th Century, logo of the press established by Serfoji II, among the earliest to print the Devanagari script in South India, a case sheet of eye treatment given by Serfoji who is also credited with having performed cataract surgeries, paintings from the Aswa Sastra manuscript, sketches of the famed temples of Thanjavur by English landscape artists the Daniells, and visitors and celebrations at the museum.

The e-book is a light ride through the socio-cultural history of the kingdom and the city it now is, but mostly it is a journey through Saraswathi Mahal Library, one that former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi describes in the visitor's book as "a brief mo-

ment in this house of treasures". The e-book is available on bookganga.com.

## **THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-13418**



Down

meals (5)

glass (8)

1 Police officer (informal)

2 Lengthy reprimand (7)

6 Railway carriage serving

3 Next in line (4)

4 For a short time (6)

**7** 1965 Beatles hit (9)

favour) (3,2,4)

**15** Diminish (7)

20 First light (4)

23 Termination (3)

10 Humbly asking (for a

12 Sailing vessel - sherry

16 Short statement of a

**18** Overturns – luxury car (5)

general principle (6)

5 Be cautious (4,4)

## Across

1 In a callous manner (4-9) 8 Wanting something to eat (7)

9 Two book of the Old

Testament (5) **10** Most important aspect (4)

11 Where dishes are ordered

separately, not from a set

menu (1,2,5)

13 Run through (6) 14 Worn down (6)

**17** Drug producing numbness

and stupor (8)

19 Rope or wire used to

support a mast (4)

21 Exhausted (3,2)

22 Glazed currant bun, often

toasted (7) 24 Dancer is timid (anag) treated differently (13)

Solution will appear in MetroPlus dated July 1, 2021. Solution No. 13417



M ND-NDE

# Raina reminisces...

The cricketer, in his recently released autobiography, Believe, talks about the people and moments he has cherished the most

Suresh Raina is an emotional cricketer. months and the team effort behind it. During a practice session seven years ago, Sachin Tendulkar told him, "You have to believe in yourself, you have to believe you can do miracles." The words from the great man meant so much to Raina that he tattooed the word 'Believe' on his right bicep the same day.

Believe (published by Penguin) also happens to be the title of his recently released autobiography. Through the book, Raina, with the help of sports writer Bharat Sundaresan, looks back at his life – 13 years of which he spent playing international cricket. He speaks to MetroPlus on the people and moments he cherishes the most in this journey.

Mahi bhai has played a very important role in my life. I will forever be grateful that I got a chance to play with him, under his guidance. I still remember back in 2005, when I first met him for the Duleep Trophy. Though I didn't get much of a chance to interact with him, I resonated in a lot of ways with him. He was from one of the small towns hoping to make it big in cricket, and so was I. When we started playing, we had the same bond on and off the field: We are both *desi* in style. He was always down to earth. He didn't change even when he got into the limelight. For me, he will always be a legendary captain and a fantastic leader.

World Cup 2011

Memories of World Cup 2011 still feel so fresh. I missed the World Cup 2007 because of my injury so I had to make sure that I gave my best for 2011, also it was being played in our own country. I was in my best shape during that time and kept working on my fitness. Though I was not the first choice, I didn't let it get to me. Finally I got a chance to play and contribute to the tournament. It is not a one-day effort that goes behind a tournament but a culmination of a lot of

> **Brotherhood** Suresh Raina and MS Dhoni ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

We were just like a family who wanted to win this trophy.

## **Chennai Super Kings**

I was making a comeback after my injury when the IPL auctions happened in 2008. I was happy to know that I was with the Chennai Super Kings. All the more reason for my happiness was to know Mahi *bhai* was in the same team with other great players. I knew this would definitely strengthen our team. Mahi bhai and I bonded more in CSK since we used to explore Chennai in our own way. The people in Chennai started referring to me as 'Chinna Thala'. I also got an opportunity to captain for CSK when Mahi bhai got injured. Yellow is something I wear with a lot of pride and is very close to my heart.

## Priyanka C Raina

Priyanka and I go a long way back. Our families had known each other before either of us were born. We hadn't been in touch since school, then in 2008, we met at Mumbai airport. From there our friendship rekindled. She was working overseas but still decided to come back to India for me. She has been an absolute pillar in my life. She has stood by me through all the highs and lows. I draw inspiration from her since she has established herself really well both in her personal and professional life. Marrying her was the best decision I made. (As told to **Praveen Sudevan**)





# A love letter to Peanuts

Ahead of the release of documentary Who Are You, Charlie Brown?, Jean Schulz reminisces about the lasting legacy of *Peanuts* left behind by her late husband Charles Schulz

**:: DIVYA KALA BHAVANI** 

As Jean Schulz navigates the hallways of the Charles M Schulz Museum in Santa Rosa, California, she frequently runs into enthusiastic Peanuts fans who are eager to share how the comic series or books affected their lives, or how a Snoopy plushie they held onto saw them from their childhood into their adult years.

"People have always found comfort in it," she says. Even over a video call, Jean, 82 has a sparkle in her eye, as she lovingly speaks of her late husband Charles Monroe 'Sparky' Schulz, the creator of Peanuts. On June 25, AppleTV+ is releasing a documentary Who Are You, Charlie Brown? detailing Charles' journey to creating Peanuts, of which the first strip débuted on October 2, 1950.

The film, narrated by Lupita



Nyong'o, follows two stories: one of Charles' life, and the other of everyone's favourite 'lovable loser' Charlie Brown tackling a school essay themed 'who are you?'.

Against a backdrop of the original music by Vince Guaraldi, audiences can look forward to archival clips of Charles' voice recordings and interviews with Jean herself, journalist-presenter Al Roker, actor-producer Drew Barrymore and filmmaker Paul Feig.

Apple TV had already released several Peanuts originals such as Snoopy in Space and The Snoopy Show – but executive producers Craig Schulz (Charles' son), Ron Howard, Brian Grazer and director Michael Bonfiglio felt it was the right time to bring Charles' story forward. Jean is not just the steward of Charles' vast estate, she feels responsible for it all, right down to the From the vault Jean Schulz, wife of the late Charles Munroe Schulz who created Peanuts - SPECIAL

wiggle of Snoopy's tail. She praises Nyong'o, "I wondered when I heard the voice 'who is this, she's perfect!' as I had no idea!"

The Peanuts characters, having not grown up for the past 50-plus years, are forever relatable – be it Charlie Brown's enduring determination (particularly when kicking a football), Linus' eccentricity, Peppermint Patty's go-get-'em attitude, Lucy's stubbornness or Snoopy's imagination. Jean is proud of each of these characters for their part in Charles' life and legacy. "Charles often said, 'all those characters have a little bit of me in it and I have a little of them in me', so through the documentary, you see his life and the characters blended in his world," she says fondly.

## Sparky's mindful decisions

One of the most loved characters is an African-American boy named Franklin who was introduced to the Peanuts world in 1968 on the heels of the Civil Rights Movement in USA. This was considered daring at

Jean reflects on this decision, "He thought long and hard about doing that because he wanted to be sure anything he wrote was authentic. If you look at the relationship between Franklin and Charlie, they meet not at school nor on the baseball diamond, but on the beach. Charlie Brown doesn't go to the beach very often (laughs) but he did go there to meet Franklin, and I wish I had thought to ask Sparky why and how he came to that realisation."

It may seem a far cry from the USA and the rest of the world we see today, though Jean points out, "Peanuts discusses the human condition so that is not going to change, people may express it differently. Now I find I have to switch my brain and catch up with how people are expressing their angst and needs (especially with social media), but I think it's all the same. But it is not different - we have the same sorts of frustrations as there were 50 or 60 years ago. It is interesting that my husband captured something that still resonates to-



Bright and beautiful (Clockwise from left) A striped coral snake; a stream ruby damselfly; Surya Ramachandran and David Raju • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



# A leopard on my page

Naturalists Surya Ramachandran and David Raju talk about their latest book that covers 2.000-odd species endemic to South India



When David Raju shadowed dragonflies as a child in his hometown in Kottayam, Kerala, little did anyone realise his fascination for insects would become his profession.

"A wildlife enthusiast spoke at my college and I realised I knew so many species by sight even though I didn't know their names. It piqued my interest and I began hanging around at Nature clubs to learn more," says David Raju, 35, discussing his foray into the world of wild animals.

David met Surya Ramachandran, 31, while working at Satpura Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh. An engineer, Surya visited the reserve and fell in love with the guiding experience. "I wanted to be one of them – taking people into the jungle, helping them connect with the wilderness and making

a lasting impact." He applied at Satpura for an internship in 2011, where he spent five years, followed by two at Kanha Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh.

As colleagues, David and Surya would act as guides for those venturing into the wild. "We would carry about eight to 10 field guides apart from provisions for

guests, through difficult terrain," says Surya, adding, "A friend of ours brought back a comprehensive guide from a safari in South Africa: it was packed with engaging information and photographs."

"It was an amazing book and we wondered why there wasn't something similar in India. That was what got us started on our first book," says David. The result - The Photographic Field Guide: Wildlife of Central India – was published in 2016. "We put in useful information in simple words to serve as a basic guide. Even if someone was participating in a big cat safari, this book would have the required information on other life forms found in that area," says Surya.

The success of their first field guide spurred the duo to work on the wildlife of South India next. "Surya

is from Chennai and I am from Kerala; between the two of us, we had covered quite a bit of the South and are well aware of its fauna. It pointed to our next practical step," says

> For Surya, it was more than just collating their combined knowledge. He says, "At the time, we were also involved in a lot of work for scientists. Though already knew

quite a lot, there were still areas where the experts would have to explain things to us. It dawned on us that the biodiversity in South India is so vast, a guide was essential.'

He adds that the realisation was further pronounced when they began collating matter - the book on Central India had around 860 species, while the one on South Indian wildlife covers 2,000-odd species.

As with their first book, the duo asked other naturalists to share photographs they had clicked during their own excursions into the jungle. Apart from their own contributions, The Photographic Field Guide: Wildlife of South India comprises over 2,000 photos submitted by around 200 wildlife enthusiasts, naturalists and photographers.

"We talk about the Western Ghats all the time, but the Eastern Ghats is no less; it's just less explored. This is the kind of ideology that brought us into writing – we eventually want to have five to six books that cover the whole country," says Surya. They are currently working on a book about Western Indian and Himalayan

Though The Photographic Field Guide: Wildlife of South India is praised for being comprehensive, handy and informative. David says the best feedback he has ever received is that children find it hard to put down.

# All eyes on the creator

Chennai entrepreneurs come up with Canvas, a tech tool that enables collaboration by streamlining an artiste's online presence across platforms



A few months ago, artist-storyteller Raghava KK sent a painting to his friend Madhan Karky. The Chennai-based lyricist was so inspired by it that he penned a few lines and sent it to a music composer, who weaved in a tune. This was then given to a visualiser, who, without knowing anything about the origin of this creative pursuit, created imagery. "Isn't it beautiful; the way energy flows from one form to another?" says Karky.

He is trying to recreate this through Canvas, a virtual tool that streamlines a content creator's online presence across platforms and helps create new avenues of income. Conceptualised by entrepreneurs Vignesh Ramaswamy, Raghava KK and Madhan Karky, Canvas hopes to

make life easier for creative people. "Post the pandemic, people are looking at creators in a different light," explains Vignesh, who has established four start-ups. "The route was always creation, discovery and then monetisation, which is why creators are forced to think about numbers even before embarking on anything. We've shifted this model to creation, monetisation, distribution and then discov-

Apart from striving to be a safe space for creative pursuits such as art, photography, podcasting, writing,

ery," he says.



Tech that! Vignesh Ramaswamy, Raghava KK and Madhai Karky ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

music and filmmaking, it will also offer freedom to its users. For instance, an author can choose to keep his work free, or choose to monetise it partly.

"Imagine if a writer keeps most of his chapters for free and opts for a paid format for the last few portions or

its climax; it opens exciting possibilities," says Karky, who adds that the tool brings together technological offerings that most creative people use (like Word-Press, YouTube and Facebook) under one roof.

Canvas, set to roll out in July as an exclusive by-invitation tool, will be launched in India and the US, with Singapore being added later this year.

# **Beyond** borders

DJ Snake on collaborating with singer Dhee for the remix version of the popular song 'Enjoy Enjaami'

PRAVEEN SUDEVAN

Popular French record producer DJ Snake has remixed the recent independent Tamil hit number, 'Enjoy Enjaami', sung by Dhee and Arivu.

The remix, which retains the Tamil lyrics, features Snake's signature electronic dance beats and was released on audio-streaming platform Spotify as part of its Spotify Singles programme.

'Enjoy Enjaami', released in March under Maajja, an independent platform launched by composer AR Rahman, has over 264 million views on YouTube.

"A close friend of mine from India shared the song a while ago. I was like, 'Wow, this song is really good!' I loved its energy," said Snake in a media interaction. "I was really excited when I got the opportunity to work

on it. I knew exactly what I was going to do and finished it in about two hours. Calling Dhee a su-

perstar, he said, "I didn't know what she was saying in the song [which was in Tamil]. But I fell in love with her

voice and her energy." 'Enjoy Enjaami', albeit catchy,

is not merely a dance number. Its lyrics talk about the Tamil labour migration to Ceylon during the Colonial era. Was Dhee, with Sri Lankan roots, cautious of not diluting the song's story in the remix version?

"DJ Snake has done an amazing job in preserving the integrity of the song. He has made it more beautiful," she replied, "The song has a really heavy core. It has got history. But it is also fun. It is about bringing people together.

And, that is what [DJ Snake] tries to do with his

music all the time."

She added, "The success of 'Enjoy Enjaami' made me realise that human emotions and experiences are the same throughout the world. People seem to be connecting with the song regardless of where they are from or what language they speak."

Snake reiterated her point of music transcending lan-

"I couldn't say anything in English eight years ago. But that didn't stop me from falling in love with the music of Bob Marley, Michael Jackson, and all these huge artistes from around the world. It is about the music, the vibe,

and the emotion." Snake, who has a big following in India, added, "I can't wait for the pandemic to be over so I can come there. I would love to meet Dhee and work on something

Viral hit DJ Snake and Dhee ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

M ND-NDE

# Republicans block voting rights legislation

The 'For the People Act' faced a filibuster in the Senate, necessitating at least 60 votes to progress

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN

A procedural vote to begin debate on a voting rights Bill backed by Democrats failed to pass the U.S. Senate on Monday after Senators voted 50-50 along party lines.

The 'For the People Act', which sought to make access to voting easier across the country, introduced in response to Republican-backed measures to tighten voting laws in several States, faced a filibuster from Senate Republicans, necessitating at least 60 of 100 votes to progress.

The Bill included provisions to increase early voting, absentee voting, limit gerrymandering (manipulating electoral constituency boundaries to favour a particular party), establish federal financing of campaigns and automatic voter registration. It also proposed additional campaign finance dis-



Fierce contest: Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell speaking about the Bill at the U.S. Capitol on Tuesday. • AFP

closures. The Democrat-controlled House had passed its version of the legislation in March.

While the outcome of the vote was not unexpected, Democrats are using it to argue that Republicans are engaged in systemic voter suppression and a case in point for why the filibuster must

Senate Majority Leader (Democrat) Chuck Schumer said the GOP vote against the Bill was "further evidence that voter suppression has become part of the official platform of the republican party". The vote was the "starting gun" and not the

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell accused

"finish line", he said.

the Democrats of a "power grab" and said the legislation would permit them to "take a red pen to election laws in each of the 50 States neutering voting ID laws and ballot harvesting". House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer told reporters that the vote would be "dramatic evidence of why the filibuster needs to be modified", according to a Reuters report.

## **Ballot access**

Two Democrats, Joe Manchin of West Virginia and Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona, have repeatedly stated their opposition to getting rid of the filibuster. Mr. Manchin was also not on board with the legislation, citing a lack of bipartisanship, but joined his fellow Democrats at the eleventh hour, after some of his suggested modifications (on voter ID and gerrymandering) were accepted.

Democrats, including U.S. President Joe Biden, said they would persist in their efforts to expand ballot access.

"This fight is far from over far from over. I've been engaged in this work my whole career, and we are going to be ramping up our efforts to overcome again, for the people, for our very democracy," Mr. Biden said in a statement.

"We have several serious options for how to reconsider this issue and advance legislation to combat voter suppression. We are going to explore every last one of our options," Mr. Schumer said on the Senate floor, right after the vote. However, what legislative path they will take remains unclear, as Democrats are likely to encounter the filibuster again and will need the support of at least 60 Senators to pass future versions of the Bill.

Hong Kong

newspaper

HONG KONG

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Hong Kong pro-democracy

newspaper Apple Daily an-

nounced on Wednesday it

will print its final edition af-

ter authorities froze its as-

sets using a sweeping new

national security law, si-

lencing the city's most Chi-

Iournalists outside the

paper's headquarters said

they planned to print one

million copies overnight -

a staggering number given

Hong Kong's 7.5 million

na-critical media outlet.

### Tehran warned on Wedthe nature of the attack that nesday that Washington's had been averted. The news of the attack decision to block the sites came a day after the U.S. Juswas "not constructive" for tice Department said it ongoing talks aimed at bring-

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Iran said it foiled a sabotage

attack on Wednesday on an atomic energy agency build-

ing in a mysterious incident

that comes as the U.S.

blocked Iran-linked websites

and as talks to revive a nu-

State television said a "sa

botage operation against

one of the buildings (of the

Atomic Energy Organization

of Iran) was foiled" without

causing any casualties or

carry out their plan," the

broadcaster added, without

identifying the building or

"The saboteurs failed to

damage.

clear deal progressed.

Four members of the Saudi hit squad that killed U.S.based journalist Jamal Khashoggi in 2018 had received paramilitary training in the United States that had been approved by the State Department, The New York

Khashoggi, a Saudi-born U.S. resident, who wrote for The Washington Post, was an outspoken critic of the leadership, with which he had once been close. He was murdered on October 2, 2018, in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul by a team of agents sent from Saudi Arabia.

Four of those operatives, The New York Times said. had received training from a private American security group, Tier 1 Group, a move first authorised by the administration of former Presi-

Iran says it foiled attack on

atomic energy agency building

its Bushehr nuclear power

seized 33 Iranian govern-

ment-controlled media web-

sites, which it alleged were

hosted on U.S.-owned do-

mains in violation

plant temporarily.

sanctions.

Neither the building nor nature of attack was identified

at least until the start of Dopost at the Pentagon.

In his written testimony, Louis Bremer confirmed that Tier 1 Group did provide training to the Saudi agents, but insisted that the training was "protective in nature" and "unrelated to their subsequent heinous acts".

The U.S. State Department, contacted by AFP, said it could not comment on this information but called for the "responsible use ... of American military ing the United States back to the landmark 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world

Wednesday's sabotage attack also comes two days after Iran said it temporarily shut down its only nuclear power plant at Bushehr on the country's Gulf coast for maintenance work.

The developments come days after ultraconservative cleric Ebrahim Raisi was elected Iran's next President in an election the U.S. denounced as neither free nor

Mr. Raisi, seen as close to the country's supreme leader Avatollah Ali Khamenei, said on Monday he would not allow the nuclear negotiations to drag on. He is set to replace President Hassan Rouhani.

# China prepares for CPC centenary events

Tiananmen Square closed to the public; activities held across the country

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chinese authorities have closed Beijing's central Tiananmen Square to the public, eight days ahead of a major celebration being planned to mark the 100th anniversary of the founding of the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC).

The square, which normally attracts tourists from around the country, was barricaded on Wednesday and will remain closed until July 2. Rows of yellow seats and heavy machinery could be seen on the open plaza,



Paramilitary police in Beijing marching past a logo for the upcoming celebration.

which also houses the mausoleum of Mao Zedong, the founding leader of Commu-

The party will showcase the country's rise from civil war and disastrous political campaigns in the early years

of Communist rule to market reforms that have created the world's second-largest economy, with a superpower status rivalled only by the United States

However, arrangements for the July 1 anniversary remain shrouded in secrecy. Around Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City former palace complex and other scenic sites are also closed. Flyovers by air force squadrons suggest an aerial review is in the planning, but authorities are yet to release details. Around Beijing and throughout the country,

signboards have been erected and commemorative activities held, accompanied by the deployment of additional police and paramilitary forces. The ruling party was established in secrecy in 1921, following the collapse

of the Qing dynasty in 1912. Underscoring China's rise in technology, President Xi Jinping spoke on Wednesday three astronauts aboard the country's newly launched space station, praising their mission as a pioneering contribution to the peaceful use of space by

# Khashoggi killers were trained in the U.S.: report to shut down

But it was protective in nature, says firm

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

*Times* reported on Tuesday.

dent Barack Obama in 2014. That training continued

nald Trump's presidency, the newspaper said. It cited a document provided to the Trump administration by a top official from the parent company of Tier 1 Group, the private equity firm Cerberus Capital Management, who had applied for a senior

equipment and training".



Early agreement reached in Suez Canal ship row

The owners and insurers of the container ship that blocked the Suez Canal for nearly a week earlier this year have reached an early agreement over their dispute with canal authorities, representatives from both sides said. The Suez Canal Authority said more details would be released later. AP

## Talks with the U.S. would lead nowhere: N. Korea

North Korea's Foreign

Minister ruled out any talks with the U.S., saying dialogue with Washington would "get us nowhere". His comments come after Sung Kim, the top U.S. envoy in charge of North Korea negotiations, visited South Korea this week in a bid to restart diplomacy with the nuclear-armed nation. AFP

# Ranil Wickremesinghe returns to Parliament

+ Former Sri Lanka Prime Minister slams the Rajapaksa government's economic policy, militarisation

MEERA SRINIVASAN COLOMBO

Former Prime Minister of Sri Lanka Ranil Wickremesinghe on Wednesday returned to Parliament, 10 months after his United National Party (UNP) suffered its biggest electoral defeat in history.

In the first intervention by his party in the current legislature, Mr. Wickremesinghe slammed the Rajapaksa government on its economic policy that, he said, lacked a plan amid a crisis, and growing militarisation of civil

Though the UNP didn't win a single seat in the 2020

general election, it had enough cumulative votes to nominate one member under its 'national list', a system in which a party can win seats proportionate to its share of total votes polled.

"I am happy to be able to come to Parliament and res ume my parliamentary political life," said Mr. Wickremesinghe, who was first elected as an MP in 1977. He was in all Parliaments since, except after he lost the election last year, when the Rajapaksas rose to power with a thumping majority.

The Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB, or United People's Front), formed by those who



Ranil Wickremesinghe

broke away from the UNP, is Sri Lanka's main Opposition party, led by Sajith Premada-

Pointing to Sri Lanka's foreign reserves, Mr. Wickremesinghe said the balance

Fired warning

shots at U.K.

ship: Russia

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Russia on Wednesday said

it fired warning shots at a

British navy destroyer in

the Black Sea after it violat-

ed the country's territorial

waters, but the U.K. denied

the incident had occurred.

As per *Interfax*, the Rus-

sian Defence Ministry said,

"The HMS Defender was gi-

ven a preliminary warning

that weapons would be

used if the state borders of

the Russian Federation

were violated. It did not

react to the warning." It

said "a border patrol ship

fired warning shots" and

an aircraft dropped four

bombs along the ship's

path, following which it left

Russian waters.

had fallen from \$7 billion, lion at present.

lion to repay. We have to re-\$2 billion this year. We have no plan on how to pay for these," he said, urging the government to sign up for an International Monetary Fund (IMF) deal.

Tax relief

Mr. Wickremesinghe ac-

Highlighting the political authority vested in the Cabinet and Parliament, civil power or the bureaucracy, and military power, as the "three aspects" of a democratic government, the formpay another loan of around er PM said: "What is happening now is that civilian power is being handed to the military and the country is governed that way. That is wrong.

The military was roped in not only for pandemic response but also for economic activity, he added, as he sought a parliamentary debate to discuss the transfer of powers vested in Parliament to the Army.

# Three killed in blast near jailed Pak. militant's home

Attack reportedly targeted the police

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

A car bomb killed three people in Pakistan's eastern megacity Lahore on Wednesday in an attack officials believe targeted the police and security forces near the home of a banned firebrand Muslim cleric. "Our assessment is that

the most obvious target was the police and security forces," said provincial police chief Inam Ghani.

He said the blast site, in the affluent neighbourhood of Johar Town, was near the home of Hafiz Saeed, the alleged mastermind of the 2008 Mumbai attacks. "The vehicle might have succeeded in reaching there had this



Security officials surveying the blast site in Lahore on Wednesday

police checkpoint not been present," said Mr. Ghani.

A police official who did not want to be named said the checkpoint was in place to guard Saeed's house. It was unclear whether

the car was packed with explosives that were remotely detonated or if a suicide bomber was behind the

'Climate crisis to hit sooner than feared'



when his government was in power (2015-2019), to \$4 bil-"By the end of this month, Sri Lanka has a debt of \$1 bil-

cused the government of giving tax relief to "big people" while "starving small peo-

### "Stop Corona; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene" DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI 2142 JANTA FLATS G.T.B. ENCLAVE DELHI0110093 PRESS NIT NO-11 (2021-22) Last date / time of Amount put eceipt of tender through E-Procurement solution E- Procurement solution 1 Improvement of water supply in Tail 39,52,447.00 end areas of Shakti Garden By P/L/J 06-07-2021 22-06-2021 2021\_DJB\_204716\_2 200/150/100 mm dia DI water line from D-Block East Gokalpur to Gali No 2 Shakti Garden in AC-68 NE-I 2 Improvement of water supply in Pratap 37 22-06-2021 06-07-2021 Nagar area by providing 300 mm dia DI 2021\_DJB\_204716\_3 water line from Bank colony Road to Sewa Dham Road Near Online Booster AC-68 ails in this regards can be seen at https://delhi.govtprocurement.com ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Ex.ENGINEER (NORTH EAST)-I

GSTIN: 36AAJCS6111J1Z9

Brief description of Goods/ Services

Snow White Maplitho Paper

Notification No.6058/OSMCL/2021

# Advt. No. J.S.V. 133 (2021-22) OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, NORTH EASTERN RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, KEONJHAR

"e" Procurement Notice for Road Works Identification No. Road Online NCB No.313 No.2689// Date: 22.06.2021 Construction of Road works under DMF and Inte

GOVT. OF ODISHA

2. Total No. of Work 3. Estimated Cost

02 (Two) Nos. As per Annexure

Other details Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O S.E., N.E.R.W.Circle,Keonjhar. Availability of tender Last Date & On-line for bidding seekina Technical Financia Dt.29.06.21 Dt.13.07.21 Dt.12.07.2 Dt.14.07.21 Will be Road Onlin NCB No. 313

 Further details can be seen from the website: www.tendersorissa.gov.in Sd/- P.K.Misra
Superintending Engineer, N.E.R.W.Circle, Keonjhar.



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (P&C) IDCO, IDCO TOWERS, JANPATH, BHUBANESWAR - 751022 Tender Call Notice No. IDCO/H.O./P&C/EST/E-1057/03/2014/ 9953

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-PROCUREMENT

1. Name of the Work : Construction of RCC Drain and Culvert in Endowment Area at Ambato

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal, www.tendersodisha.gov.in and Corrigendum if any will not be published in newspapers and can only be seen in the e-Procurement portal www.tendersodisha.gov.in and www.idco.in.

OIPR-14003/11/0032/2122

आगे विवरण हेतु, कृपया हमारा वेबसाईटः http://spphyderabad.spmcil.com देखें और किसी संशोधन /शुद्धि-पत्र वेबसाईट पर ही प्रकाशित किया जाएगा / For further details, please visit our website at http://spphyderabad.spmcil.com & mendment/ corrigendum if any, will be published on website only. हरता/- Sd/-M (TO) & CPSO (कृते मुख्य महाप्रबंधक / For Chief General Manager) Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMC) In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar-751001 Tel.:(0674) 2380608; Website:www.osmcl.nic.in; Email: proc.osmcl.od@nic.in

प्रतिभृति मुद्रणालय/ SECURITY PRINTING PRESS

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना / Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)

Tender No.

6000016457

मुइरबंद निविदाएं निम्नलिखित वस्तु (ऑ)/ सेवाओं की प्राप्ति के लिए पात्र और योग्य निविदाकर्ताओं से आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं Sealed tenders are invited from eligible and qualified tenderers for the following items:

CIN: U22213DL2006GOI144763

10,000

Kgs

निविदाओं की प्राप्ति के लिए रीख और बंद करने का समय

Closing date and time (IST for receipt of tenders

06-07-2021

At 10:45 AM (IST)

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER FOR SUPPLY OF RAPID ANTIGEN TESTING KITS FOR SARS COV-2 (COVID-19) Online Bids through e-Tender portal (https://tendersodisha.gov.in) are invited from eligible

bidders for supply of Rapid Antigen Testing Kits for SARS CoV-2 (COVID-19) as per the particulars mentioned below: Bid Reference No. Item Name 1. OSMCL/2021-22/EQP - RAT / 06 Supply of Rapid Antigen Testing Kits for

		SARS CoV-2 (COVID-19)							
SI. No	Particulars	Date and time							
1.	Date & time of release of bid	22/06/2021, 6 PM							
2.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time						
		23/06/2021, 11 AM	29/06/2021, 5 PM						
3.	Date & time of Online Technical bid Opening	30/06/202	21, 11 AM						
4.	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the	gualified bidders						

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites www.osmcl.nic.in and https://tendersodisha.gov.in. OSMCL reserves the right to reject or modify any conditions of the tender or cancel the tender or cancel the issued purchase order at any stage without assigning any reason thereof. Managing Director.

OSMC Ltd., Odisha OIPR-10112/11/0031/2122

# AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Climate change will fundamentally reshape life on Earth in the coming decades, even if humans can tame planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions, according to a landmark draft report from the UN's climate science advisers obtained by Earlier models predicted

that we were not likely to see Earth-altering climate change before 2100. But the UN draft report says that prolonged warming even beyond the threshold of 1.5 degrees Celsius could procenturies' long and, in some cases, irreversible consequences". Dangerous thresholds are

duce "progressively serious,

closer than once thought, and dire consequences stemming from decades of carbon pollution are unavoidable in the short term.

State-Inter District-Inter Block Scheme.

As per Annexure 4. Class of Contractor 5. Period of Completion As per Annexure

NOTICE INVITING TENDER UNDER

. Period of Completion . Other details	: 03 (Three) Calendar Month	ıs.	
Procurement Officer	Bid ID/Tender reference No.	Availability of Tender	On-Line for Bidding
1	2	3	4
Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, IDCO	Bid ID/Tender Reference No. P&C/EST/E-14/2021-22	25.06.2021 at	08.07.2021 up to 17.00 Hrs

Sd/- Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, Bhubaneswar

1736.70

1479.25

781.95

7432.70

. 123.35

.2205.35..

17414.80

-19.95

-21.75

..-20.40

.... 1.15 .... -2.65 ... -12.20

Kotak Bank L&T.....

Nestle India Ltd.

PowerGrid Corp Reliance Ind

State Bank Sun Pharma

Products Ltd. Tata Steel

Tech Mahindra

UltraTech Cement

M&M

Wipro	540.15	16.40
EXCHANGE RA	TES	
Indicative direct rat except yen at 4 p.m.		
CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	74.08	74.40
Euro	88.49	88.88
British Pound	103.42	103.91
Japanese Yen (100)	66.75	67.04
Chinese Yuan	11.44	11.49
Swiss Franc	80.70	81.05
Singapore Dollar	55.09	55.35
Canadian Dollar	60.29	60.56
Malaysian Ringitt	17.79.	17.88

IN BRIEF

# Infosys's ₹9,200-crore

buyback to start June 25

Infosys will commence its up to ₹9,200-crore buyback from June 25, wherein the IT major intends to buy back shares at a maximum price of ₹1,750 apiece. The board approval was granted on April 14 and shareholders' nod was received on June 19. at the company's 40th AGM. Kotak Mahindra Capital was appointed as the manager of the buyback, according to a regulatory filing. PTI

## Housewives get post demonetisation I-T relief

Cash deposits of up to ₹2.5 lakh by housewives post demonetisation will not come under I-T scrutiny as the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) has held that such deposits cannot be treated as income of the assessee. Ruling on an appeal filed by an individual, the Agra bench of the tribunal said the order would act as a precedent for all similar cases. PTI

## Apollo Hospitals Q4 net

Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd. reported standalone net profit for Q4 FY21 shrank 44% to ₹116 crore. Revenue contracted 6% to ₹2.410 crore. The board declared a final dividend of ₹3 per share. The government should consider giving additional incentives to the healthcare sector to allow it to recover from the COVID-19 impact, said Prathap C. Reddy, chairman.

Drug major Cipla said it had received final approval from the USFDA for Arformoterol Tartrate Inhalation Solution, as chronic bronchitis, in the generic version of Sunovion Pharmaceuticals Brovana. Quoting IQVIA (IMS Health) data, Cipla said Brovana had U.S. sales of about \$438 million for the 12-month

period ended April 2021. PTI

# 'States not prudent in reopening | Centre further eases norms as vaccination rates are still low'

Using test positivity as guiding factor may create challenges: Oxford Economics

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

States' reopening strategy in the wake of a decline in CO-VID-19 cases is not "prudent" and might even result in a rise in infections as vaccine coverage remains low in many States, global forecasting firm Oxford Economics said on Wednesday.

In a report, it also said, "we remain cautious and maintain our 2021 growth forecast at 9.1%", pointing out that economic data did not support an upward revision at this point.

The rapid decline in CO-VID-19 cases and test positivity rates has prompted many States to relax restrictions that are in place to curb the



In a rush: The reopening has started at a faster pace than it had expected, says the forecasting firm. • s MAHINSHA

spread of coronavirus infections. Against this backdrop, Oxford Economics said vaccination rates were far below the levels deemed to be safe for easing social distancing measures substantially in

the more populous and economically important States.

While partial restrictions were likely to be extended into the third quarter of the calendar year 2021, the reopening had started at a faster

pace than it had expected, it pening strategy is not prudent and may result in a renewed rise in infections and retightening of restrictions in the future," Oxford Economics said.

The reopening had begun at a faster pace than it had anticipated as States had focussed on declining test positivity rates as the guiding factor for easing measures rather than the share of population vaccinated.

"This strategy could create a challenge... if infections increase again, especially as we head towards the festive months, and vaccine coverage remains low in many States," it said.

# for voice-based BPOs

To help consolidate India's position globally, lower costs

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD

India on Wednesday said more norms governing Other Service Providers, or voice-based BPOs, were being relaxed, and that the distinction between domestic and international entities in particular had been removed. This was aimed at helping consolidate the country's position in the sector globally, paring operating costs for the entities and aiding them to strike syner-

gies among different firms. Removal of the distinction would mean a BPO can leverage the same telecom resources to serve customers located globally as well as in the country. A release said the interconnectivity bet-



ween all types of OSP centres was now permitted.

Other relaxations include allowing Electronic Private Automatic Branch Exchange (EPABX) of the OSP to be located anywhere in the world. Apart from using EPABX services of telcos, the entities can locate the facility at third-party data centres

in India. There will be no restriction for data interconnectivity between OSP centres of the same company or group firm or any unrelated firm.

Minister for Communications Ravi Shankar Prasad said the move was expected to provide a fillip to the BPO sector as well as create jobs. This was in continuation of the Department of Telecommunications' liberalisation of norms in November.

Nasscom said the Centre had issued clarifications on all points the association had raised, which would place the IT-BPM sector in a competitive space. "The new guidelines will add to India's attractiveness in ease of doing business," it added.

# HDFC Bank's key strategy is digital marketing: MD

'Steps taken to fix credit-card glitches'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

HDFC Bank is expanding its distribution footprint leveraging 'branch and virtual relationship channels' with digital marketing as the key channel, MD & CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan said in the bank's latest annual report.

"This will enable us to capture the growth potential in both India and Bharat and different consumer segments like the tech-savvy and millennials going forward," he said.

The bank, however, had been in the spotlight in the last 28 months "for the wrong reasons when it came to technology."

Mr. Jagdishan said the last



Sashidhar Jagdishan

technology downtime had led to the Reserve Bank of India banning the bank from issuing new credit cards as well as putting on hold new plans under its Digital 2.0 initiative.

"We have taken this as an opportunity to improve and redouble our efforts to fix the problem for good."

# High raw material prices threaten survival of MSMEs

Industry group urges nil duty on import of steel materials

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A steep increase in raw material prices in the last few months threatens the survival of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the manufacturing sector, the All India Council of Associations of MSMEs said. The council, which has

about 170 MSME associations from different States as its members, pointed out that copper prices had increased by 110% this month compared with April last year. Prices of aluminium alloy had risen 94%, mild steel plates by 82% and CRCA sheets by 96%.



The MSMEs faced working capital erosion because of the high cost of inputs. While the units supplying to public sector undertakings (PSUs) were unable to get a revision in prices of their products, the open market was unable to take the full impact of high raw material prices, the council said.

"In spite of a drop in demand due to lockdown, prices are on the upswing, particularly steel, pig iron and other raw materials," the group said in a release on Wednesday.

It urged the government to set up a mechanism to ensure raw-material-price-stability for MSMEs. The PSUs should allow MSMEs to cancel orders without imposing a penalty and permit them to quote revised prices. The government should also allow import of all steel materials based on cost and quality requirements at nil duty and ban export of iron ore and steel products, it added.

# 'Household savings fell to 8.2% of GDP in Q3, FY21'

Declined from 10.4% in Q2: RBI data

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA MUMBAI

The first wave of COVID-19 last year impacted households as their financial savings moderated to 8.2% of GDP in the December quarter from 10.4% in the previous three-month period, RBI data released on Wednesday showed.

"The moderation was driven by a significant weakening in the flow of household financial assets, which more than offset the moderation in the flow of household financial liabilities," the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) The ratio of household

(bank) deposits to GDP declined to 3% in the third



quarter from 7.7% in July September. RBI further said household debt-to-GDP ratio, which is based on select financial instruments, has been increasing steadily since end-March 2019. "It (household debt to

GDP ratio) rose sharply to 37.9% at end-December 2020 from 37.1% at end-September 2020," the RBI said.

Tata Motors

# TII to spend ₹250 cr. in capex

Firm to focus on electric 3-wheelers, expansion plans

N. ANAND

Tube Investments of India Ltd. (TIIL) proposes to spend ₹200-₹250 crore for FY22 in capital expenditure on its electric three-wheeler project and expansion plans, said a top official.

"For the current fiscal, the capex could be in the range of ₹200-₹250 crore (₹129 crore in FY21)," K. Mahendra Kumar, CFO, said. "A major part of that

would be towards the threewheeler EV project and a few expansion plans which the firm has in chain and engineering businesses." Stating that there has

been continuous progress in the EV project, Vellavan Subbiah, MD said that things were slightly delayed due to COVID-19. "Our initial plan was to try and introduce it (EV) in the fourth quarter of FY22. We are still working towards those targets, but it might get pushed out be-



Vellayan Subbiah

cause we have had several delays due to COVID-19 in this last quarter," he added.

TIIL has three main segments – engineering, cycles and accessories and metal formed products - that contributed ₹4,256 crore in revenue in FY21 against ₹4,276 crore in the FY20.

On cycles, he said TIIL was looking at four growth vectors - raising local-market share, product mix, export markets and new products.

"We are working on a set

of strategies that will help us gain some sustainable competitive advantage. Some of the efforts we have executed, and some are under execution," said K.K. Paul, precycles division adding that they were looking at exports in a far more concerted and aggressive fashion than in the past.

To a question on passing on steel-price rise, Mr. Subbiah said they should be able to pass on majority of the price increase to customers though TIIL shall remain concerned about it as it will have other consequences.

Asked about the commonalities that exist between subsidiaries, he said that this vear would be more of consolidation of the existing businesses. "So, in the first stage, our focus is just consolidating the existing business and then, in the second stage, we will move to integration between the two businesses," he added.

# LIC's group business gets tech platform

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

LIC of India has introduced a centralised web-enabled workflow-based technology platform for its group business operations.

Chairman M.R. Kumar inaugurated the project titled e-PGS on Wednesday.

"The platform is designed to provide centralised collection and payment accounting with high level of bank integration to host connectivity and provide innovative features of seamless and integrated banking with automatic reconciliations," LIC said in a

"The new system is capable of providing comprehensive, self-servicing capabilities [via] the customer portal where corporate customers will be able to view their data, initiate actionable processes, lodge and track claims," it added.

# CCI probes Google for 'unfair' business practices

'Mandate to pre-install apps a violation'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The Competition Commission has ordered a detailed probe against Google for alleged anti-competitive practices in the smart television operating systems market in the country.

After assessing a complaint, the watchdog had reached the prima facie view that Google was dominant in the relevant market for licensable smart TV device operating systems in India. In a 24-page order, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) said that prima facie mandatory pre-installation of all the Google applications under Television App Distribution Agreement (TADA) amounts to imposition of unfair conditions on the smart TV device manufacturers.

This is in contravention of Section 4(2)(a) of the



Competition Act, the regulator said, adding that it also "amounts to prima facie leveraging of Google's dominance in Play Store to protect the relevant markets such as online video hosting services offered by You-Tube, etc.". Section 4 of the Act per-

tains to abuse of dominant position. A Google spokesperson said, "We are confident that our smart TV licensing practices are in compliance with all applicable competition laws.

# ED, MD to leave SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

names Wagh as

Tata Motors has announced that Guenter Butschek, MD & CEO, would relocate to Germany at the end of the contract for personal reasons, and would therefore be stepping down from his role from June 30. "He will continue as a consultant till the end of this fiscal year," the company said in a statement.

Girish Wagh, president commercial vehicles, was being appointed as Executive Director to the Board from July 1, it added.

Tata Motors' domestic business had successfully transitioned to a Business Unit structure with the Commercial Vehicles Division headed by Mr. Wagh and the Passenger Vehicles Division headed by Shailesh Chandra, the leading automaker observed in the statement on Wednesday.

# German car-parts firm ZF exits Brakes India

Licence, tech agreements to continue

N. ANAND

German car- parts maker ZF Friedrichshafen AG (ZF) has divested its entire 49% stake in Brakes India to its Indian joint venture partners for an undisclosed sum.

The move follows intense competition in the segments in which Brakes India operates, ZF said. Brakes India was founded

in 1962 as a joint venture between T.V. Sundram Iyengar and Sons (TVS) and ZF.

The shares were divested in favour of T.V. Sundram Iyengar & Sons Pvt. Ltd., Sundaram Finance Holdings Ltd., India Motor Parts & Accessories Ltd. and Flometallic India Private Ltd.

tinue its technology licence



Brakes India, a leading supplier of braking systems in the India and a global supplier of ferrous castings. ZF, meanwhile, has de-

cided to divest 2.64% stake, comprising five -lakh equity shares, in Wabco India Ltd. to non-retail and retail investors at ₹6,550 per share to meet regulatory compliance. Post-dilution, ZF would hold about 2.8% stake in the company.

# HDFC Life to pay ₹2,180-cr. in plan bonus

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

HDFC Life on Wednesday announced a bonus of ₹2,180 crore to its policyholders subscribing to participating insurance plans.

Under a participating plan, a policyholder is eligible to get a share in the profit of the company in the form of bonus.

The eligible participating policyholders will get a share of the surplus generated in the participating fund and their benefit amount will increase with declaration of bonuses everv year, HDFC Life said in a statement.

It exceeds the previous year's bonus by 44%. A total of 15.49 lakh policyholders are eligible for this bonus, HDFC Life said.

# FMCG logs rise in sales after Unlock 2.0

Discretionary food, personal care will see the sharpest recovery: Edelweiss's Roy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

FMCG companies are witnessing an increase in sales after Unlock 2.0 with easing of curbs on trading and movement by State governments and local authorities on account of falling number of COVID-19 cases.

States started lifting curbs in the first week of June. Companies are witnessing

tailwinds in sales, particularly in their health and hygiene portfolio – both in urban and rural markets. Unlock 2.0 has also in-

creased the convenience of business for companies as "The drop in COVID-19 earlier distribution was limited to certain hours in a day in several States on account of restrictions and filling up empty shelves was a challenging task.

Dabur India CEO Mohit



Malhotra said as several States were unlocking and local markets were opening up, consumer demand was showing an uptick.

cases has not only boosted consumer sentiments but also helped the supply chain recover from the COVID-19induced disruptions. We are seeing tailwinds in our healthcare portfolio, particularly in rural India, with demand growing for Chyawanprash, honey immunity-building Ayurvedic products," he said.

better traction [after unlock-

ing]," he said, adding "now,

**Better traction** Jyothy Labs JMD Ullas Kamath said, "We are seeing

though there is the fear of a third wave." Health and hygiene products such as body wash, soap and dish wash are doing well, he noted. Echoing similar views, **Edelweiss Financial Services** 

a feel-good factor has come

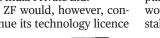
executive VP Abneesh Roy said " it had to happen." "It was not a demand issue in May but sales got impacted due to high number

of COVID-19 cases leading to

the closure of many shops

and reduced hours for shops," Mr. Roy said. Both have now reversed. Sentiments are sharply improving as cases have fallen, apart from good rainfall,

hike in MSP, etc," he added. He further said discretionary food and personal care will see the sharpest recovery, though other product segments will also grow.





shrinks 44% to ₹116 cr.

Cipla gets U.S. FDA nod for inhalation product

used to treat conditions such U.S. market. The product is a



# Kiwis bury the ghosts of 2019, crowned first World Test champion

Two years after the heart-breaking loss to England in the 50-over World Cup final, Williamson's men scale the long-format summit with an eight-wkt. win over India





## WTC FINAL

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

SOUTHAMPTON New Zealand registered the biggest triumph in its cricket history as it beat India by eight wickets in the final of the inaugural World Test Championship (WTC) on Wednesday.

Two years after their agonising Super Over loss to England in the 50-over World Cup final at Lord's in 2019, Williamson's men clinched a global title.

Set a target of just 139 in 53  $\,$ overs, New Zealand finished on 140 for two with more

than seven overs left after the contest stretched into the reserve day after two days' play were washed out in the first

India off-spinner R. Ashwin reduced the Kiwis to 44 for two, removing both openers.

However, skipper Williamson (52 not out) and Ross Taylor (47 not out), the team's two most-experienced batsmen, shared an unbroken stand of 96 to seal victory.

The real damage was done by New Zealand's all-pace attack as it dismissed India for 170 in its second innings on a rare sunny day which provided the best batting conditions in the entire contest.

Tim Southee took four for 48 in 19 overs, but it was towering paceman Kyle Jamieson, who followed up his first-innings five for 31 by taking the prize wicket of India captain Virat Kohli for the second time in the match.

Kohli had added just five to his overnight score of eight when he edged a delivery that bounced and moved late to wicketkeeper B-J. Watling, playing in the final match of his international career.

And 71 for three soon became 72 for four when Cheteshwar Pujara, who took 80 balls to score 15, edged a delivery from Jamieson that held its line to a diving Taylor at first slip.

free-scoring Pant, a batsman capable of wresting the initiative from New Zealand. But the wicketkeeper should have been out for five

when he edged Jamieson, on-

Pujara's exit brought in the

ly for second-slip Southee, going across first slip, to drop a routine chance. Pant, to the delight of India fans in the crowd, then

whipped Southee past midon for four. Ajinkya Rahane cut Trent

Boult to the boundary only

A very special feeling. The team showed great heart to get across the line

Credit to them for sticking to the process long enough to put us under pressure throughout the game. They thoroughly deserve it

for the cheers from supporters to turn to shocked silence next ball when he was caught behind down the

Sweden tops group after beating back Poland's challenge; England and Croatia advance to the knock-outs

Spain steamrollers Slovakia to make the last-16 from Group E

## SCOREBOARD

INDIA – 1ST INNINGS **NEW ZEALAND** - 1ST INNINGS

INDIA – 2ND INNINGS

Rohit Sharma lbw b Southee 30 (81b, 2x4), Shubman Gill lbw b Southee 8 (33b), Cheteshwar Pujara c Taylor b Jamieson 15 (80b, 2x4), Virat Kohli c Watling b Jamieson 13 (29b), Ajinkya Rahane c Watling b Boult 15 (40b, 1x4), Rishabh Pant c Nicholls b Boult 41 (88b, 4x4), Ravindra Jadeja c Watling b Wagner 16 (49b, 2x4), R. Ashwin c Taylor b Boult 7 (19b), Mohammed

(10b, 3x4), Ishant Sharma (not out) 1 (6b), Jasprit Bumrah c Latham b Southee O (4b); Extras (b-1, lb-8, w-1, nb-1): 11; Total **FALL OF WICKETS** 

1-24 (Gill, 10.4 overs), 2-51 (Ro-

hit, 26.5), 3-71 (Kohli, 35.5), 4-72 (Pujara, 37.3), 5-109 (Rahane, 49.6), 6-142 (Jadeja, 62.5), 7-156 (Pant, 69.2), 8-156 (Ashwin, 69.4), 9-170 (Shami, 72.2). **NEW ZEALAND BOWLING** 

Southee 19-4-48-4, Boult 15-2-39-3, Jamieson 24-10-30-2, Wagner 15-2-44-1. **NEW ZEALAND** 

Tom Latham st. Pant b Ashwin 9 (41b), Devon Conway lbw b Ashwin 19 (47b, 4x4), Kane Williamson (not out) 52 (89b, 8x4), Ross Taylor (not out) 47 (100b, 6x4); Extras (lb-11, nb-2): 13; Total (for two wkts. in 45.5 overs): 140.

**FALL OF WICKETS** 1-33 (Latham, 13.3), 2-44

(Conway, 17.2). **INDIA BOWLING** Ishant 6.2-2-21-0, Shami 10.5-3-31-0, Bumrah 10.4-2-35-0, Ash-

win 10-5-17-2, Jadeja 8-1-25-0.

Man-of-the-final: Jamieson. New Zealand won by eight wickets to clinch the World Test

# + Jadeja becomes No. 1 Test all-rounder

Ashwin ranked fourth in the list

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

India's Ravindra Jadeja on Wednesday dislodged West Indian Jason Holder as the world's top all-rounder in the latest ICC Test rankings. Jadeja is two points ahead

of Holder (384) while England all-rounder Ben Stokes is third on 377. R. Ashwin is at fourth with 353. followed by Shakib Al Hasan of Bangladesh (338).

Ashwin remains in the second spot in the bowlers' rankings on 850 points, below Pat Cummins (908) of Australia. Tim Southee (830) of New Zealand is third.

Among the batsmen, there was no change in topfive with Indian captain Vi-



Ravindra Jadeja. GETTY IMAGES

rat Kohli static at fourth on 814. Steve Smith of Australia continues to be the top batsman on 891 points, followed by Kane Williamson (886) of New Zealand and Marnus Labuschagne (878) of Australia.



Spain claimed the biggest win of the tournament with a 5-0 thrashing of Slovakia in their final European Championship Group E match on Wednesday to finish second in the group and set up a last-16 clash with Croatia in Copenhagen.

Goals from Aymeric Laporte, Pablo Sarabia, Ferran Torres and two own goals from Martin Dubravka and Juraj Kucka sealed Spain's progress to the knockout stages.

Dubravka saved an early penalty from Alvaro Morata but gifted Spain the opener when he attempted to punch a rebound off Sarabia's shot over the bar, only to palm it into his own net.

Aymeric Laporte doubled the lead before halftime. Sarabia was then rewarded with a goal when left back Jordi Alba swung a cross into the box and the Paris Saint-Germain winger found space to take a first-time shot that went in off the post.

when he set up substitute Ferran Torres who scored within a minute of coming on, flicking a low cross past Dubravka for the fifth. Spain forced another own goal minutes later when Kucka failed to clear off the line.

**Stoppage-time winner** Sweden topped Group E and sent Poland home from the championship with Viktor Claesson's stoppage time winner gave it a 3-2 verdict at St. Petersburg, in one of the tournament's most exciting





Masterclass: Luka Modric slots in with the outside of his foot for Croatia's second goal. • REUTERS

Sweden appeared to be cruising after Emil Forsberg scored the second fastest goal in Euro history a mere 82 seconds in, followed by a

second-half breakaway strike.

Poland's Robert Lewandowski, who hit the bar twice in the first half, narrowed Sweden's lead two minutes later with a curling shot from outside the edge of the penalty area, then got a second in the 84th minute to

set up a thrilling finale. England clinched first

place in Euro 2020 Group D with a 1-0 win against the Czech Republic, while Luka Modric's rocket propelled Croatia into the last 16 as its 3-1 victory over Scotland eliminated its COVID-hit opponents on Tuesday.

Already assured of playing in the last 16, England made certain that the knockout tie will be played in front of its own fans at Wembley thanks to Raheem Sterling's firsthalf winner against the Czechs.

The results: Group D: Croatia 3 (Vlasic 17, Modric 62, Perisic 77) bt Scotland 1 (McGregor 42); Czech Republic O lost to England 1 (Sterling 12).

Group E: Spain 5 (Dubravka 30 (OG), Laporte 45+3, Sarabia 56, Torres 67, Kucka 71 (OG)) bt Slovakia O; Sweden 3 (Forsberg 2, 59; Claesson 90+4) bt Poland 2 (Lewandowski 61, 84).

Tweets 'taken

out of context':

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dismissing accusations of

racism against him, En-

gland's World Cup-winning

captain Eoin Morgan said

the historical tweets, alleg-

edly mocking Indians, were

"If I call somebody 'sir'

on social media, or anywh-

ere around the world, it's a

sign of admiration and res-

pect. If that's taken out of

context there's nothing I

can control or do about it.

So I haven't actually looked

"taken out of context".

Morgan

# Dunkley in line for ODI debut against India



Dunkley. • GETTY IMAGES

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Batting all-rounder Sophia Dunkley has been named in the England women's ODI squad for the series against India following an impressive performance on her Test debut.

The squad: Heather Knight (capt.), Emily Arlott, Tammy Beaumont, Katherine Brunt, Kate Cross, Freya Davies, Sophia Dunkley, Sophie Ecclestone, Tash Farrant, Sarah Glenn, Amy Jones, Nat Sciver, Anya Shrubsole, Mady Villiers, Fran Wilson, Lauren Winfield-Hill.

# Djokovic, Barty top seeds at SW19

Federer seventh as era without unique seeding formula begins

## WIMBLEDON SPORTS BUREAU

Wimbledon, on Wednesday, announced defending champion Novak Djokovic and Ashleigh Barty as the men's and women's top seeds respectively, for the 2021 edition of The Championships, which gets underway next Monday.

The upcoming tournament will be the first after the Wimbledon organisers decided to do away with their unique seeding formula for men, used to re-order the top 32 seeds in the main draw by giving extra weight to grass-court performances during a two-year period leading up to the competition. The seedings are in line with the current ATP rankings, aligning the tournament with the three other

As a result, Roger Federer, the eight-time champion



and 2019 runner-up, will be seeded seventh, behind the likes of Daniil Medvedev (second seed), Alexander Zverev (fifth) and Andrey Rublev (sixth), who have zero grass-court titles and not a single appearance beyond the fourth round at SW19. In 2019, Federer, then ranked No. 3 in the world, was elevated as the second seed in place of Rafael Nadal, the

The women's section



Djokovic. • FILE PHOTO

broadly follows the WTA rankings, but has been tweaked on occasion to produce a "balanced draw". In 2018, Serena Williams, despite being ranked 183, was given a seeding of 25. But there was no need to do so this time, with the seventime singles champion qualifying as the seventh seed.

Simona Halep, the 2019 winner, is the second seed while two-time champion Petra Kvitova is 11th.

# Ramkumar closer to main draw

Ankita Raina goes down in first round of qualifiers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ramkumar Ramanathan stood just one win away from his maiden Grand Slam appearance after he progressed to the final round of the Wimbledon qualifiers with a straight-sets win over Tomas Martin Etcheverry.

The Indian, ranked 211 in singles, got the better of the Argentine, who is seven places above him, 6-3, 6-4 in 59 minutes. Ramkumar had seven aces and a lone double fault in the match. The 26-

year old needs to beat Australia's 32nd seed Marc Polmans, ranked 152, to make the main draw.

However, Ankita Raina's attempt to qualify for the women's singles main draw failed after she went down in the first round of qualifiers.

The 28-year-old Indian was beaten by higher-ranked American Varvara Lepchenko 6-3, 7-6(1) in 82 minutes on Tuesday night. Ankita, ranked 182, had only one break point in the match, which she failed to convert.



Ramkumar Ramanathan. ■ FILE PHOTO

# Bopanna and Divij in quarterfinals

SPORTS BUREAU EASTBOURNE

Rohan Bopanna and Divij Sharan beat British wild cards Alastair Gray and Luke Johnson 7-5, 6-3 in the doubles first round of the

€609,065 ATP tennis tourna-

ment here on Wednesday.

The results:

First round: €609,065 ATP, Eastbourne, Britain: Rohan Bopanna & Divij Sharan bt Alastair Gray & Luke Johnson 7-5,

\$15,000 ITF men, Monastir, Tunisia: Julian Cash & Mark Whitehouse (GBr) bt Rinky Hi-

iikata (Aus) & Siddhant Banthia 7-6(2), 1-6, [10-3].

Women: Tara Malik (USA) bt Humera Baharmus 6-4, 6-3.

Doubles: Sarah Lisa Aubertin (Tun) & Midori Castillo Meza (Mex) bt Arina Solomatina (Rus) & Humera Baharmus 6-2,



Morgan. ■ FILE PHOTO

## TV PICKS

Golf: Women's PGA championship: Eurosport (SD & HD), 8.30 p.m. **England vs Sri Lanka**: 2nd T20I, Sony Six (SD & HD),

11.30 p.m. Copa America 2021: Sony Ten 2 & Sony Six (SD & HD), 2.30 a.m. & 5.30 a.m.

NBA: SS Select 1 (SD & HD), 6 a.m. (Friday)

## IN BRIEF



New role for **Darren Sammy** 

ST. JOHN'S (ANTIGUA) Two-time T20 World Cup-winning former West Indies captain Darren Sammy has been appointed as an independent non-member director of the CWI board. The decision was taken by the Cricket West Indies Board during a meeting held on June 17. Sammy is one of the three appointments of Independent Directors approved at last Thursday's meeting to serve for the next two-years. PTI

## Para-shooter Pooja bags two silver medals

Para-shooter Pooia Agarwal displayed a stunning performance at the World Shooting Para Sport World Cup held in Lima, Peru, as she added two silver medals to her long list of victories. She won the Team Silver Medal in P3 (25m pistol mixed SH1 & P4) and 50m free pistol mixed SH1. ANI

## Kaymer, McDowell named Europe's vice-captains

VIRGINIA WATER (ENGLAND) Martin Kaymer and Graeme McDowell, players who have holed decisive putts for Europe at Ryder Cups, were appointed Wednesday as vice captains for the team for the 2021 edition at Whistling Straits in September. They ioined Luke Donald and Robert Karlsson as assistants to captain Padraig Harrington as Europe looks to retain the biggest prize in team golf. AP

## Bangladesh set to tour Zimbabwe

The Bangladesh Cricket Board said on Wednesday its national team will leave for Zimbabwe on June 29 for a coronavirus restrictions in the African country. The tour will feature a Test, three One-Day Internationals and three T20Is. AFP

# India's official Olympic theme song launched

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

India's "Official Olympic Theme Song" launched on Wednesday ahead of the Summer Games in July-August.

Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju was the chief guest at the event which was organised by Indian Olympic Association (IOA).

Mohit Chauhan has composed and sung the song titled "Lakshya Tera Samne Hai".

# **Indian teams** for World Championship

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI The All India Tennis Association (AITA) has announced the list of players to compete in the over-50, 55 and 60 age groups in the Seniors tennis World Championship to be staged in Umang, Croatia, from August 29 to September 3.

The teams: Over-50: Gurdarshan Singh Ramana (Capt.), Venkata Narayana Murthy Kthyala, Tikam Singh Panwar and Tuleswor Singh Thongbam; Over-55: Chandra Bhushan Prasad (Capt.), Nagaraj Revanasiddaiah, Arun Aggarwal and Saniai Kumar Aravindakshan: Over-60: Mayur Vasant Manek (Capt.), Pawan Jain, Ajeet

# 'Don't feel I've really earned qualification'

I know how far below my potential I've played this year, says Lahiri



the 60th spot, the last quota available. • AFP

## OLYMPIC GAMES

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Indian golfer Anirban Lahiri says he wasn't expecting to qualify for the Olympics given his below par performance this year but now wants to make it count by returning with a medal from the Tokyo Games.

Lahiri on Tuesday made the cut for the Olympics at the 60th spot, the last quota available as per the Interna-Golf Federation rankings.

"It was a big surprise, I wasn't expecting it," said Lahiri, who is preparing for this week's PGA TOUR stop at the Travelers Championship at River Highlands, Connecticut.

"Even though I've earned it, I don't feel like I've really earned it as I know how far

below my potential I've played this year. It's a gift and an opportunity, so why would I throw it away." India was eligible for one spot and Lahiri qualified being the highest-placed golfer from the country at the 340th

"I know what it is to be an Olympian as I've done it before (in Rio) and I don't want to be just an Olympian. I want to win a medal, I want to do something that makes a difference," said the 33-year-old.

"I know winning a PGA TOUR event will do that but winning a medal would even do more. I do have a certain responsibility towards the game and my country."

The former Asian No. 1 finished a lowly 57th in Rio while playing with an injury. But recently, there have been signs of some good form returning following a recent T25 finish at the Palmetto Championship at Congaree.

That has made him optimistic of his chances at the Olympics to be held at the Kasumigaseki Country Club from July 29 to August 1.

"When I first found out, I called my wife and she asked what do I want to do now. I told her 'how can I not go? How can I not represent my country in the biggest sporting event in the world?'

"This is why I play the game... and to have the opportunity to represent your country, and not just the representation as I feel like I'm playing really well. "I feel I'm close to playing

my best golf right now and for a lot of reasons, it makes sense for me. It means everything for me to go," said Lahiri, whose last win came at home at the Hero Indian

# Deepika Kumari in recurve semifinals

Verma, Jyothi best-ranked compound archers

SPORTS BUREAU

Deepika Kumari, who got two byes, defeated Elena Tonetta of Italy 6-0, Charline Scwarz of Germany 7-3 and Aida Roman of Mexico 6-0 to reach the recurve women's individual event semifinals in the archery World Cup Stage-3 here on Wednesday.

Ankita Bhakat lost in the fourth round, while Komalika Bari, who got past her compatriot Madhu Vedwan in the second round, exited in the third.

All Indian male archers -Atanu Das, Tarundeep Rai, Pravin Jadhav and B. Dhiraj - in the recurve men's individual competition also lost. Das and Jadhav reached the fourth round.

In the compound bow division, Abhishek Verma and V. Jyothi Surekha emerged as

the best-ranked Indian archers in the men's and women's sections respectively after the qualification round.

Verma aggregated 706 points to take the 11th place. He was followed by Aman Saini, who totalled 704 for 21st place, and Rajat Chauhan, who collected 607 for the 42nd spot. The men's team was ranked sixth after gathering 2107 points.

Jyothi shot 695 points for her 15th place. She was followed by Saanchi Dhalla (690 points, 22nd place), Akshita (681, 32nd) and Pragati (668, 43rd). The women's team was slotted sixth after getting 2066 points.

The mixed compound team of India was ninth with 1401 points. The elimination phase of the compound division will be held from Thursday onwards.

# Olympic doubt over Lemaitre

Vicaut, Bosse also miss French championships

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

French sprinters Christophe Lemaitre and Jimmy Vicaut, and middle-distance runner Pierre-Ambroise Bosse, have all withdrawn from their country's national championships this weekend, casting a shadow over the former's presence at the Tokyo Olympics. The trio's withdrawal

European 100m hurdles champion and world bronze medallist Pascal Martinot-Lagarde. Vicaut, part of France's medal-winning bronze 4x100m relay team at the

2012 London Olympics and

world hammer silver me-



Lemaitre.. • FILE PHOTO

joint European 100m record holder with a best of 9.86 seconds set most recently in 2016, is still suffering a muscular problem.

## Back from injury

Lemaitre, bronze medallist over 200m at the 2016 Rio Games, is making his comeback from injury and has also reacted badly to his COVID-19 vaccines, according to his training group.

## **Critical moment**

Lemaitre, 31, faces a critical moment as he has not run the qualifying times for either the 100m or 200m. He has only until June 29 to ensure qualification.

Vicaut and Bosse, the 2017 world champion over 800m, are both eligible for selection for the July 23-August 8 Tokyo Games, although Bosse has not yet run outdoors

# Statistical Bulletin released

## **GENERAL**

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The 41st edition of the V.K. Pahuja Statistical Bulletin edited by Dr. Meenakshi Pahuia was released by Dr. Sanjeeb Patjoshi IPS, the Joint Secretary of Panchayati Raj on Wednesday.

In keeping with the high standard of accuracy and timing set by her father V.K. Pahuja, a pioneer statistician who brought out the annual bulletin for decades, Meenakshi, an assistant professor at Lady Shriram College, and the recipient of Nari Shakti Puraskar from the President, has been able to maintain the quality and variety in the 450-page bulletin.

It has been released on



Carrying on the legacy: Dr. Sanjeev Patjoshi, second from left, released the Swimming Bulletin, along with Priyank Pahuja, Dr. Meenakshi Pahuja and Dr. Supriya Pahuja.

Meenakshi's effort in sustaining her dad's memory and legacy, Patoshi said, "you have kept the flag flying high."

Pride of place has been given to the six Indian swimmers, Kushagra Rawat, Virdhawal Khade, Srihari Nataraj, Sajan Prakash, Advait Page and Arya Makhija who have attained the Olympic 'B' qualpite difficulties, our swimmers participated in Olympic qualifiers and achieved best Indian performances. They kept me busy," Meenakshi.

The bulletin has been made more lively to read with the interviews of Dronacharya awardee Ameen, woman coach Smita Desai Divgikar and the fastest couple of Indian swimming, Virdhawal Khade and Rujuta

# Tvesa to have long shot at Olympic berth

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA BEROUN (CZECH REPUBLIC)

Indian golfer Tvesa Malik, who has been having a good run on the Ladies European Tour, will get one final chance to qualify for Tokyo Olympics when she tees up at the Tipsport Czech Ladies Open this week.

Nothing less than a win will give her a chance to join Aditi Ashok in the Tokyo Olympics. Aditi is assured of a berth as she is 44th in the current list of qualifiers.

Tvesa, who has had two Top-10s in her last three starts, will also need some luck in the form of withdrawals from among the qualified players to get into the

# Madhvendra leads; U-14 girls' standings revised

## CHESS

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Mayank Chakraborthy, Yash Bharadia, Daaevik Wadhawan, Akshay Borgaonkar and Mrinmoy Rajkhowa share the second spot at 6.5 points.

Meanwhile, the All India

Based on the Fairplay report from the official broadcaster Tornelo and the subsequent decision of the five-member Fairplay panel, 10 players, including runner-up Stuty Aishwary, were found guilty of using unfair

As per the revised standings, Saparya Ghosh (Bengal) and Shubhi Gupta (UP) have been elevated to the second and third places, behind champion G. Tejaswini

Madhya Pradesh's Madhvendra Pratap Sharma aggregated seven points from seven rounds to lead the open section of the National under-12 online rapid chess tournament on Wednesday.

Chess Federation (AICF) has

revised the standings of the National (u-14) girls rapid championship that conclud-

(Tamil Nadu).

# Ayton's last-second dunk does it for Suns

## NBA

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESEE PHOENIX

Deandre Ayton made the goahead catch and dunk with one second left and a bloodied Devin Booker scored 20 points as Phoenix Suns shocked Los Angeles Clippers 104-103 in game two of their NBA Western Conference finals.

Booker shook off a Scruel clash of heads that left him bloodied and bruised, returning to the game as the Suns took down the Clippers in a see-saw fourth quarter to win

a 2-0 lead in the finals. Ayton, who had 24 points, scored the eventual game-winner in a thrilling finish as the Suns perfectly executed on their final possession of the game.

The play started with an

in-bound pass by Suns for-

ward Jae Crowder who lobbed it directly to the front of the basket where a leaping Ayton was waiting. He caught and then dunked the ball in one motion to give to give the Suns a

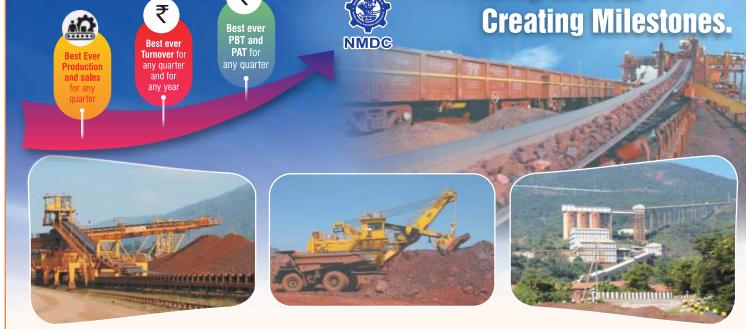
Game three is on Thursday

104-103 lead with 0.7 seconds



In nick of time: Deandre Ayton delivered for Phoenix Suns with a superb basket in the dying moments. • AP

### June 23 in all the 41 years. "It ification timings, apart from Suyash Yadav, the lone Inis a magnum opus for data. information on swimming," dian swimming entrant for said Patjoshi. Appreciating Paralympics in Tokyo. "Des-Khade. Harnessing Growth.



			Standalo	one			C	onsolidate	d	
Particulars	(	Quarter Ende	ed	Year I	Ended	(	Quarter Ende	Year Ended		
	31-Mar-2021	31-Dec-2020	31-Mar-2020	31-Mar-2021	31-Mar-2020	31-Mar-2021	31-Dec-2020	31-Mar-2020	31-Mar-2021	31-Mar-20
	Audited	Un-Audited	Audited	Audited	Audited	Audited	Un-Audited	Audited	Audited	Audited
Total Revenue from Operations	6,847,57	4.355.10	3,187,34	15,370.06	11,699,22	6,847,57	4,355,10	3,187,34	15,370.06	11.699.2
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items, discontinued operations)	4,266.43	2,811.27	1,579.05	8,901.10	6,219.92	4,264.39	2,810.41	1,574.99	8,895.52	6,211.4
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items, discontinued operations)	4,268.73	2,810.80	1,482.18	8,901.63	6.122.43	4,266.69	2,809.94	1,478.12	8,896.05	6,113.
Net Profit (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	2,837.58	2,108.91	351.21	6,253.05	3,610.12	2,835.54	2,108.05	347.00	6,247.47	3,601.
Share of Loss of Associates/JVs	-	-	-	-	-	0.07	49.75	(31.18)	29.17	(28.5
Non-Controlling Interest (Profit)/Loss	-	-	-	-	-	(0.21)	(0.01)	0.43	(0.37)	(0.3
Net Profit/(loss) after taxes, Non-Controlling Interest and share of profit /loss of Associates/JVs	2,837.58	2,108.91	351.21	6,253.05	3,610.12	2,835.82	2,157.81	315.39	6,277.01	3,573.
Total Comprehensive income for the period (Comprising profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	2,837.79	2,090.14	274.64	6,196.96	3,535.08	2,838.50	2,114.44	300.61	6,155.93	3,580.
Paid up Equity Share Capital (Face value Re.1/- each)	293.07	306.19	306.19	293.07	306.19	293.07	306.19	306.19	293.07	306.
Other Equity (excluding Revaluation Reserve as per Balance Sheet)				29,463.07	27,227.76				29,590.98	27,366
Net Worth Earnings Per Share (of Re. 1/- each)				29,756.14	27,533.95				29,897.59	27,681.
Basic (in Rs.) Diluted (in Rs.)	9.64 9.64 (*)	6.89 6.89	1.15 1.15	20.62 20.62 (*)	11.79 11.79	9.64 9.64 (*)	7.05 7.05	1.03 1.03	20.70 20.70 (*)	11. 11.
Total Debt paid-up				523.80	-				523.80	
Total Interest on Debt				22.63	-				22.63	
Capital Redemption Reserve				103.40	90.28				103.40	90
Debentures Redemption Reserve				-	-				-	
Debt Equity Ratio				0.02	-				0.02	
Debt Service Coverage Ratio				16.24	-				16.23	
Interest Service Coverage Ratio				231.89	_				231.77	

(\*) Adjusted on account of buyback

Place: Hyderabad

Dated: 22-June-2021

The above is an extract of the detailed formats of Quarterly Results filed with Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full formats of Quarterly Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange v (www.nseindia.com and www.bseindia.com) and Company's website www.nmdc.co.in. Previous periods figures have been reclassified wherever considered necessary.

> For and on behalf of Board of Directors of NMDC Limited

Shri Amitava Mukherjee Director (Finance) Din No.: 08265207



# **NMDC Limited**

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Bhardwaj and Rakesh Kohli.